

# THE JERUSALEM POST

See today's  
**BOOK  
SUPPLEMENT**

Get united with  
the States.  
From Israel, just dial:  
**177-100-2727**  
AT&T

VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19359

THURSDAY, AUGUST 22, 1996 • ELUL 7, 5756 • 8 RABIA 2, 1417

NIS 4.50 (Eilat NIS 3.80)

## Arafat: No linkage between Hebron, Jerusalem

DOUGLAS DAVIS  
and news agencies  
LONDON

**PALESTINIAN** Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat yesterday rejected any linkage between an IDF redeployment in Hebron and stopping PA activity in east Jerusalem.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has been quoted as telling the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee that there would be no progress until the PA's Jerusalem offices were closed. "He [Netanyahu] has to abide by what was agreed on, and not add new conditions," Arafat told reporters in Tunis following talks with President Zine Bin Ali. "I briefed President Ben Ali on our suffering from Israel's non-commitment to the [peace] deal and on the dangers of the settlement policy," Arafat said.

Arafat, who left Tunis yesterday, also urged Arab states to join efforts to overcome the obstacles facing the peace process between Israel and its Arab neighbors.

"I insisted on the importance of action [to overcome the hurdles], not only by the Palestinians alone, but by all the Arabs," he added.

Mahmoud Abbas (Abu Mazen), a senior member of the PA, also ruled out the linkage in a newspaper interview published yesterday.

"This logic is unacceptable to us and we reject it completely," Abbas told the London-based Arabic-language daily *Al-Hayat*. He said that "everyone must comply with his commitments."

"We asked the Israeli government to come to the negotiating table and put all their demands," said Abbas. "We are ready to discuss everything."

He said there were "contacts" between the Palestinians and the Israelis which provide "a trace of hope that we can push things forward. I don't see the door completely closed, but there is no room to be completely optimistic..."

"I cannot say we are in a state of negotiations, but we are in a situation where there are contacts that will prepare the ground for the future, and we hope the future will bring a serious resumption of negotiations."

While the future remained "difficult and vague," he said was confident that "we are not going to allow things to go backward," adding that he was working to convene a meeting between Netanyahu and Arafat.

Abbas said the two sides had made preparations to revive the activities of a joint economic committee, including naming heads of the two delegations. "There is hope to complete other circles. I mean to revive the higher committee and hold summit meetings between Arafat and Netanyahu," Abbas said.

Meanwhile, in Algiers, PLO official Farouk Kaddoumi discussed with President Liamine Zeroual the "dangers wrought by the latest developments following the Israeli elections," the official Algerian News Agency APS said.

APS said Zeroual pledged to Kaddoumi that his North African country would throw its weight behind the Palestinians and rally worldwide support for their cause. "President Zeroual underlined that Algeria intends not only to support the Palestinian cause but it is also ready to do its utmost in order to mobilize all the countries to back the Palestinians in their just cause," APS added.

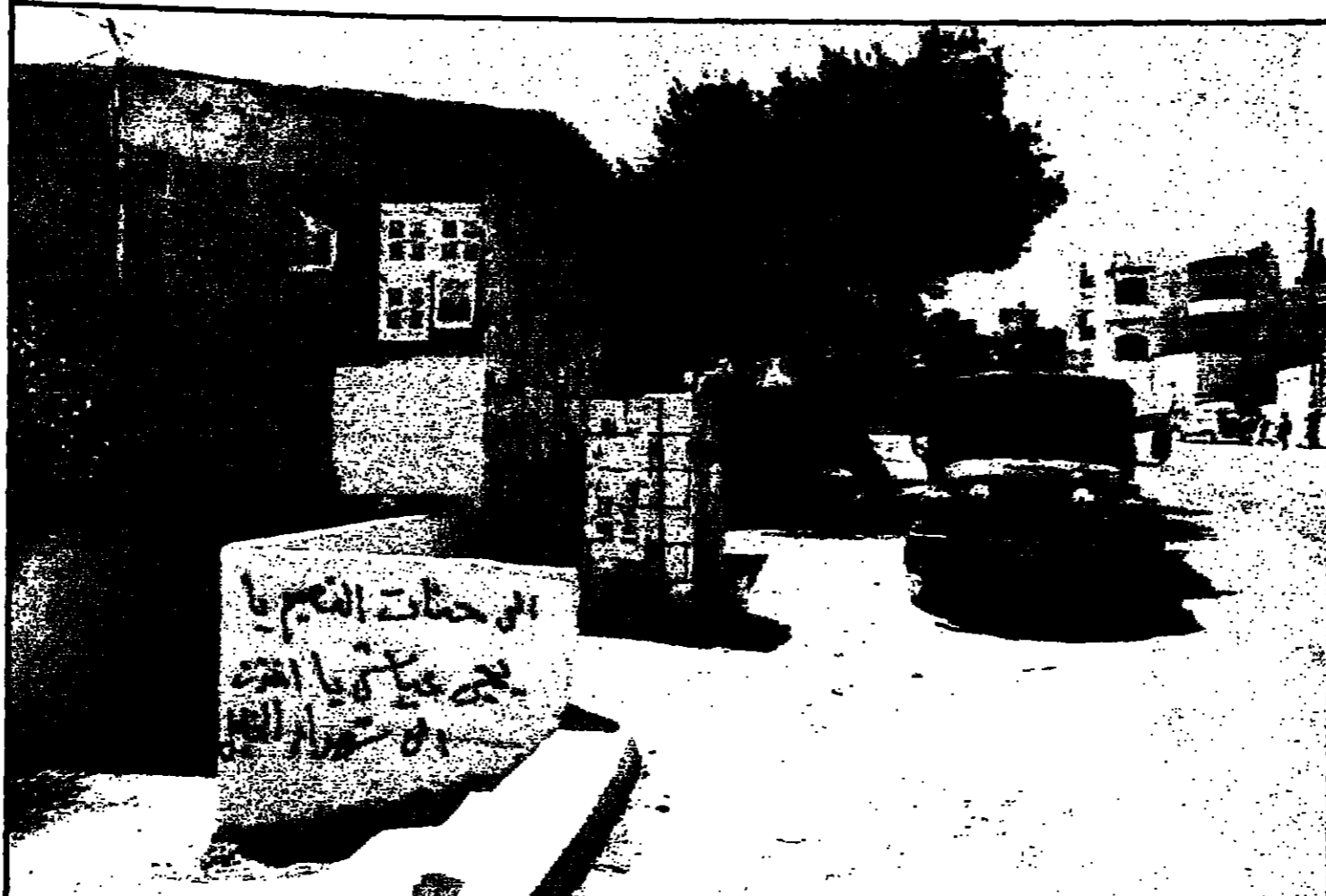
Kaddoumi, who arrived in Algiers on Monday, said Netanyahu's "proposals have no meaning and convey no wish to make peace."

In Tel Aviv, Meretz leader Yossi Sarid said yesterday that, as far as he knew, the government had no intention of redeploying in Hebron in the near future.

Charging that the government was not keeping its commitments to the Oslo accords, Sarid said that if the security situation in the territories deteriorated, it would be responsible.

"The problem is not Hebron but Sharon," he said.

He added that Netanyahu had succeeded, in a mere two months, in changing the winds of peace in the region into winds of war.



Security forces keep an eye on the closed Palestinian security service offices in Azariya.

(Khaled Zighan)

## Illegal Palestinian security offices near Jerusalem closed

BILL HUTMAN

SECURITY forces yesterday closed down two Palestinian security service offices operating just outside of Jerusalem in violation of the interim accords, but left untouched a third office whose illegal operations are also well known.

Palestinian sources said the two offices closed were in the village of Azariya and the office left open is in the adjoining village of Abu Dis, which borders Jerusalem to the east.

Israel had allowed all three offices to operate openly for months, security sources said.

Left untouched by security forces was the former headquarters of the Civil Administration on a hilltop in Abu Dis, overlooking Jerusalem's Old City, which now serves as the headquarters of the Palestinian Authority's Governor of Jerusalem, Jamil Nasser, and the Palestinian Preventive Security Service.

Palestinian and Israeli sources said the Abu Dis headquarters is used as a base for operations of Palestinian security agents in the area's villages as well as east Jerusalem.

Inside, Palestinian suspects are interrogated, but they are then transferred to Ramallah or Jericho if it is decided they are to be held, the sources said.

The General Security Service and army, which are responsible for security in Abu Dis and Azariya as well as other parts of what is defined in the interim accords as Area B, have until now ignored Palestinian security activity in the villages.

The sources said there has been close cooperation between the Palestinian and Israeli security forces in the Abu Dis and Azariya area. Israeli sources suggested the reason the Abu Dis headquarters was allowed to remain open was because of the importance Israel sees in this security cooperation.

Palestinian sources noted that the two offices shut down belonged to Force-17, the personal militia of PA Chairman Yasser Arafat. The offices were run by Force-17 commander Jawad Bassa, who has been on bad terms recently with Nasser, the PA district governor.

Nasser was angry about complaints he has received from Palestinian residents, accusing Bassa's men of beating suspects, and had ordered the Force-17 commander to clean up his act,

according to the Palestinian sources.

Bassa has not been seen in Azariya for several days. His men also went into hiding before the army raid yesterday. "Force-17" was scrawled in Arabic on the walls of the offices, from which soldiers confiscated documents and equipment.

In reaction to the army's action, Nasser told reporters that the offices shut down were not operating in violation of the interim accords, and were providing important services to local residents, such as mediating disputes.

Nasser charged that the army action was in violation of the interim agreements, and that Israel was unfairly trying not only to prevent the PA from operating inside Jerusalem, but also in areas adjoining the city.

The area was declared a closed military zone during the army's action. Soldiers also tried to forbid reporters and photographers from approaching, despite being unable to provide a written order to the effect that the area was off-limits, him reported.

The army spokesman declined to comment on why the Abu Dis headquarters was allowed to remain open, on grounds that his office "does not elaborate on operational considerations."

## Yotam denies murdering terrorists, 'Yediot' stands by story

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

GENERAL Security Service agent Ehud Yotam flatly denied yesterday that he had murdered the two Palestinian terrorists captured alive after they hijacked Bus No. 300 on its way to Ashkelon, 12 years ago.

Yotam was severely reprimanded by GSS head Ami Ayalon for speaking without permission to the *Yediot Aharonot* newspaper, which first published the interview last month.

In the interview, Yotam was quoted as saying, "I smashed their skulls." But, according to a statement released by the Prime Minister's Office, which is responsible for the GSS, Yotam denied he ever made that statement to the reporter.

"The head of the GSS accepted Ehud Yotam's explanation that the remarks given to the journalist were not for publication but as background," the statement said.

Yotam added that the report was "not correct," the statement said. The Bus No. 300 affair, and subsequent cover-up, rocked the entire security service, blemished Yitzhak Mordechai, then chief

paratroops officer and today defense minister, and undermined the public's confidence in the GSS's sweeping powers.

Likud MK Gideon Ezra, a former top GSS commander, stood by Ehud Yotam. "Ehud simply didn't do the things that are being linked with him. And it doesn't matter for the moment what the reporter understood or didn't understand. The fact is that Ehud did not kill the terrorists and did not kill them in the way the report claims," Ezra told Channel 2.

But *Yediot* stood by its report and said that neither the GSS nor Yotam himself had sought any clarifications on the story, first reported 27 days ago. It added, in a statement, that the newspaper's management chose not to release everything mentioned in the interview with Yotam out of "consideration for the public."

Yotam, 48, said at the time of the interview that he agreed to speak out since he was retiring from that GSS with a rank equivalent to that

of major-general after 24 years of service. Still it was never clear why Yotam admitted in the interview that he had killed the two surviving terrorists under orders from then-head of the GSS Avraham Shalom.

Yotam, who is the brother of Mossad chief Danny Yotam, said in the interview that he was proud of what he had done. Yotam explained in the interview how he and fellow agents had lied to a government inquiry to frame Mordechai, whose unit stormed the bus, with behavior unbecoming of a commander.

A military court later acquitted Mordechai, and then-attorney general, Yitzhak Zamir, called for Shalom's dismissal. But the national unity government refused. President Chaim Herzog later pardoned Shalom and all other GSS agents involved.

Herzog has said that he pardoned the GSS agents because the whole affair had threatened to cause irreparable damage to the security agency. Yotam stayed in the GSS and continued being promoted.

## Merom calls for special Knesset session on threat from Syria

EVELYN GORDON

MK HAGGAI Merom (Labor) is demanding a special Knesset session on what he terms the renewed threat of war with Syria and the threat of a new intifada.

Merom yesterday asked acting faction chairman Eli Goldschmidt (Labor) to collect the 30 MKs' signatures needed for a special session. However, the faction decided not to accede to this request for now, mainly because party chairman Shimon Peres is abroad.

One MK explained that due to a previous incident in which a group of senior MKs met without Peres and were later accused by Peres's supporters of plotting a coup against him, the party is reluctant to call for a special session on a political issue in Peres's absence.

Instead, Labor MKs on the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee will discuss the issue next week, and the faction may call for a special session once Peres returns.

Merom said he asked for the session due to information that Israel's intelligence sources have recently changed their estimate of Syria's intentions, and now see a growing possibility that Syria might "consider the option of war to be a real option."

He cited the increasingly harsh statements in Syria's state-owned press, the recent Scud-C tests, the fact that Syria is letting Hizbullah supply itself with new weapons, and the frequent visits to Iran by senior Syrian officials, as evidence of this change in Syrian intentions.

"There were many months in which intelligence assessments said unequivocally that there was no danger of war with Syria," he said. "Now, those assessments are no longer unequivocal in this direction, and that should worry us."

"This is a situation which stems from the new government's policies," he added. "The Knesset needs to know this, and the people of Israel need to understand the meaning of a right-wing government."

Merom said he agreed with Prime

Minister Binyamin Netanyahu's statement to the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee on Tuesday that there has been no change in Syria's capabilities.

But Syria's capabilities are very, very problematic as they stand, and could be fatal if there was a war," he added.

Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai slammed Merom in a statement, calling Merom's remarks "unsubstantiated, inaccurate, and irresponsible, and likely to cause unnecessary panic and other damage." He said Israel had no interest in escalating tensions with Syria, and he objected to statements by public figures that could possibly lead to such escalation.

A senior official in the Prime Minister's Office also responded sharply to Merom's statements.

"This is part of a panic-mongering campaign [being waged by the opposition]," he said. "We find it, to put it charitably, counterproductive for the peace process, because it obviously reinforces the intransigence of the Syrians and the Palestinians, and it demoralizes and scares Israelis. And perhaps worst of all, it incites the other side to turn this into a self-fulfilling prophecy."

"The freeze in talks with Syria is now more than nine months old," he added. "Obviously it has nothing to do with the stance and declared policies of the new government."

Furthermore, the official said, it is ridiculous to say Syria has only begun showing signs of warlike behavior in the past two months. It

has been developing its missile-production capacity for the past three years, he noted, and it also began building a plant for the production of chemical weapons during the previous government's tenure. Israel has known for at least a year that Syria has acquired the largest store of chemical weapons in the Middle East, and a recent report by *Jane's* noted that Syria has built up its air force to a point which goes "far beyond a defensive posture," he continued.

"None of this happened in the last two months," the official said, which is why Israel has lodged many complaints in recent years regarding Syria's arms acquisitions.

Deputy Education Minister Moshe Felet, a former member of the Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, attacked Merom — a former committee chairman — for violating precedent by calling for a public debate on sensitive intelligence information. Intelligence assessments are usually discussed only by the committee.

"Merom's words constitute political and public irresponsibility," he said in a press statement. "The Israeli Left has always behaved irresponsibly when in opposition, and has done everything possible to weaken Israel's position and its bargaining power in diplomatic talks."

The Golan Residents Committee, meanwhile, also attacked Merom. "Haggai Merom has volunteered his services to Syria's psychological warfare against Israel, which is meant to threaten Israel into submission to its dictates," the committee said, in a press statement.

## Government okays Arafat helicopter trip to Ramallah

ISRAELI yesterday granted a one-time permit for Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat to fly in his helicopter from the Gaza Strip to Ramallah.

Arafat is due to attend a session of the Palestinian Authority Council in Ramallah, and is also to meet with former prime minister Shimon Peres there.

Last week, the IDF refused to issue such a permit. But Palestinian General Ziad Atarsh, a member of the Israel-PA security committee, said yesterday that Israel had granted a permit for the helicopter trip.

Israeli security officials confirmed that the permit had been granted. They said that Arafat

had been given permission to fly up the Mediterranean coast to the Hadera area, at which point he would fly east to the Ramallah area.

Arafat's helicopter will be escorted by an IDF helicopter and will not overfly populated areas, they said.

(Itim)



**JORDAN** 4 to 9 Day Tours  
**EGYPT** 4 to 10 Day Tours

- Suitable for individuals, families and small groups
- Group and Private tours • Excellent itineraries

**B.T.C.** Travel & Tours (02) 6233 990

# Settler council protests reported PM pledge to US

EVELYN GORDON

THE Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza was in an uproar yesterday over reports that Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has promised the US not to build certain new roads in the territories.

According to council chairman Pinhas Wallerstein, the council received information indicating that Netanyahu promised to build no new bypass roads without the consent of the US.

This would not affect most of the bypass roads, since these were agreed upon between former prime minister Shimon Peres and US President Bill Clinton, he said.

However, it would affect two roads which Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon recently promised to pave — a rerouting of the Trans-Samaria Highway, and a road leading north from Jerusalem through Givat Ze'ev and Atarot, which is eventually to extend out to Ben-Shemen, near Ben-Gurion Airport.

Wallerstein said the council had demanded an urgent meeting with Netanyahu on this issue, and was hoping to be convinced that work has not yet begun on these two roads for purely technical reasons.

"But this [information] matches the fact that since this government took power, not a single bypass road has been built — even those approved during the Peres-Rabin period," he added.

"Other than canceling the building freeze order and declarations in the media, we don't see anything happening on the ground."

Both council spokesmen Aharon Domb and deputy council chairman Benny Kashriel said another theory is that the road-work has been delayed due to lack of funds.

Whatever the reason, however, it would be a very serious matter if these roads were not built, they said.

"We can't believe this story — that the roads won't be built, and that there was a promise to the Americans," Domb said. "There have been a lot of positive state-

ments and there's a good feeling, but nothing has happened on the ground — and that gives a very bad feeling."

Domb noted that there have been similar disappointments. When Menachem Begin came to power in 1977, there was also an initial period of euphoria, with many supportive statements emanating from the Prime Minister's Office, he said. Yet eight months later, the leaders of the settlement movement were conducting a sit-in opposite the Prime Minister's Office, due to the government's refusal to release state lands for building.

This confrontation, he added, ended very positively, and the Begin government ultimately proved to be a boost to the settlement movement.

"But I can't bear to think of a situation in which I would go to demonstrate or conduct a sit-in against Benjamin Netanyahu, whom we all supported so much and wanted so much," he added.

Wallerstein said the council "would have to act" if Netanyahu had indeed made such a promise to the Americans, but he declined to specify what it might do. Kashriel, however, said he could not foresee a major war over the issue, since the council was reserving this option for Hebron — "where we're concentrating all our efforts."

"We won't go to the barricades over this," Kashriel said.

Peace Now, meanwhile, said it would be wonderful if the council's fears were proven right, but it did not believe this would be the case.

"The government ministers and the heads of the council are playing a dangerous double game of statements to the press followed by denials, while work is quietly done on the ground," the movement said.

It also charged that the bypass roads would come at the expense of improving dangerous roads within Israel and reducing traffic accidents, since the overall road-building budget was being cut.



Members of the Bafochi National Ballet of Chile plant a tree yesterday in the Bernardo O'Higgins Jewish National Fund forest in Eshtaol. The planting was part of a ceremony marking Chile's national day. (Ariel Jerozolimski)

# Givati soldier makes dramatic recovery

DAVID RUDGE

THE Givati Brigade soldier who was seriously wounded in the "friendly fire" tragedy in south Lebanon early Tuesday morning has made a dramatic recovery.

The incident, in which another soldier, Staff Sgt. Valery Gansman, 22, of Upper Nazareth, was killed, is still being investigated by Northern Command.

The operational accident occurred when a small squad from the Givati Brigade's anti-tank unit was returning from an arduous mission. They were about 1.5 kms from the northern perimeter of the security zone, in the western sector, when the unit split into two groups.

The advance party was led by the unit commander who suspected, at that time, that there were terrorists in the area. He instructed the forward unit to prepare an impromptu ambush and when noise was heard and silhouettes were spotted from the rear, he reportedly gave instructions to open fire.

It quickly transpired, after the initial burst, that the soldiers in the forward section had shot their comrades bringing up the rear of the squad, killing Gansman and seriously wounding Avishai Shafir, 20, of Moshav Shaked.

Shafir was treated in the field and evacuated by helicopter to Nahariya hospital where he underwent emergency surgery for serious shrapnel and bullet wounds to his chest and limbs.

After the operation, Shafir was transferred to the hospital's intensive care unit where he was kept on a respirator.

Deputy hospital director Dr. Moshe Daniel said yesterday that Shafir no longer needed the respirator and was sitting in a chair in the ward talking to friends and relatives.

"There has been a big improvement in his condition, although he is still being kept in the intensive care unit because of the seri-

ousness of his wounds," said Daniel.

The Northern Command is continuing its inquiries into the tragedy with particular emphasis on why the small squad split into two groups and why neither apparently realized that a break had occurred.

The two groups also, allegedly, did not act in accordance with procedures and exercises dealing with such situations. The full inquiry into the tragedy is expected to be completed within the next few days, after which the findings will be submitted to OC Northern Command Maj. Gen. Amiram Levine who is expected, in turn, to relay them to Chief of Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin Shahak.

Meanwhile, there were reports from the zone yesterday that South Lebanese Army troops snatched two Hizbullah activists from north of the zone two weeks ago. The incident, according to the reports, occurred north of the Zameriya crossing point on the northern perimeter of the zone's eastern sector.

Originally, Lebanese news agencies reported that SLA troops had kidnapped two shepherds. According to the reports yesterday, the two had admitted being Hizbullah activists and one of them had confirmed that he had been instrumental in helping to plan Hizbullah's frontal attack on the SLA's Kawkabeh position over a month ago.

The massive assault was thwarted by the SLA troops manning the outpost who forced the attackers to retreat, leaving large quantities of arms and ammunition in the field.

According to the reports, which were also carried on the SLA's Voice of the South radio, the two suspects had admitted being veteran Hizbullah activists. They are still being held and questioned by the SLA.

# Hizbullah decision to run separately a sign of confidence

BACKGROUND

DAVID RUDGE

THE Amal Shi'ite movement and its fundamentalist rival Hizbullah appear set to run on separate lists in the remainder of Lebanon's parliamentary elections — a step which could ultimately prove the extent of their respective grassroots popularity.

In the previous elections in 1992, the two organizations, which have been fighting for domination of Lebanon's massive Shi'ite community, ran on a joint list.

The pro-Syrian Amal movement and the Iranian-backed Hizbullah fought bitter internecine battles in the streets of Beirut's southern suburbs and especially in south Lebanon, for several years, until a Syrian and Iranian-brokered truce took effect in 1991.

A year later, with the cease-fire

still fresh, and with Syrian intervention, the two agreed to join forces in Lebanon's first democratic elections since the '75-year-old civil war. Hizbullah, standing for the first time as a political party, did well, winning eight seats in the 128-seat Lebanese parliament as its share of the joint list.

Three of those seats were in south Lebanon, where Hizbullah has been working doubly hard in the past four years to win the hearts and minds of the Shi'ite community, which comprises the majority of the population in the region.

Operation Accountability in 1993 destroyed or damaged hundreds of homes in villages north of the security zone, with Israel holding Hizbullah responsible for provoking the operation with its Katyusha

rocket attacks on Galilee communities. The same occurred during Operation Grapes of Wrath earlier this year.

Hizbullah, however, reacted on both occasions by transferring massive sums of money to the south, to enable the reconstruction of homes through its Islamic Housing company, in addition to other aid projects.

The Kafir Kana tragedy, in which over 100 Lebanese civilians were killed by accidental IDF shelling of a UNIFIL compound where they were taking shelter during Operation Grapes of Wrath, also played into Hizbullah's hands.

Moreover, incessant propaganda,

including justification of its role as a "resistance" organization fighting to rid Lebanon of the "Zionist occupiers" and their South Lebanese Army allies, appears to have shifted the balance in Hizbullah's favor. In the past, the more moderate Amal had enjoyed the support of the majority of Lebanon's Shi'ite community, especially in the south.

If Hizbullah feels confident enough to run on a separate list in the elections, it indicates that the organization believes it is now strong enough to do well against Amal.

The election results, if Hizbullah does run separately, would show whether Hizbullah's reported support among villagers in the south is genuine or due to a combination of fear and financial incentives.

A big win for Hizbullah, however, would strengthen its anti-Israel stance and its "resistance" forays against IDF and SLA forces in the security zone.

It might even increase Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee, if Hizbullah could find the right justification for them.

# Painting the peace process by numbers

COMMENT

JON IMMANUEL

THE prime minister discussed the closure with senior ministers yesterday, and the government coordinator and Palestinian officials will talk about border controls today. The problem of the closure can be stated with scientific precision. Unless 80,000 Palestinians are allowed into Israel, the PA economy will not grow. Under 60,000 it will continue to sink, according to World Bank estimates.

But the problem is graver than the numbers indicate. At the moment 40,000 workers have permits, but fewer actually have jobs because foreign workers have restricted job opportunities. Some 100,000 legal foreign workers and as many illegal workers cannot be located and expelled at a moment's notice.

Terje Larsen the UN coordinator in Gaza said at a press conference Tuesday that in addition to the thousands who cannot cross the Green Line, 20,000 more Gazans have lost jobs this year. This is related to the closure because their Gaza jobs were dependent on consumer demand, on the import of raw materials and the export of finished goods, or on the need to make contact with Israeli businessmen.

The businesses that are thriving include the most visible ones, such as restaurants, hotels and high-rise apartment buildings, which cater mostly to visitors and members of the PLO and Gaza elite. Catering to the rich and being visible, they arouse social envy and accentuate widening social gaps.

Membership for a family of four to the new Seagull country club between Shati and Jabalya refugee camps costs \$500. Average annual per capita income is \$700 (down from \$1,200 in 1993).

The PA estimates it loses \$6 million a day because of the closure,

but even if the real figure is \$2 million, that is about \$600 million a year or the amount promised by donors. But \$600 million in donations does not have the same effect on the economy as \$600 million earned in Israel, since more than a third of the donors' money pays for salaries of foreign project planners and for imported materials. Money earned in Israel goes straight where it is economically and socially vital, to families near the bottom of the social pyramid and in taxes to the PA.

The PA budget deficit has reached \$127 million and this is threatening the jobs of many of the 64,000 workers in the bloated public sector, though police will probably be the last to go.

Today government coordinator Maj.-Gen. Oren Shabor is to speak about border controls at the Allenby Bridge with PA Civil Affairs Minister Jamil Tarifi.

Mohammed Shteyeh, director of the Palestinian Economic Council for Development and Reconstruction, says that if border controls were eased, investors who have fled this year might return and re-establish factories in Gaza and absorb many workers who cannot expect to return to Israel soon.

The government coordinator's office maintains that in any case most limitations on goods have already been removed, that 800 trucks a day leave and enter Gaza and that trade across the Jordan River even if it was unlimited would be minimal.

If this is so, and if 80,000 Palestinian workers cannot be accommodated across the Green Line daily, the outlook for the PA economy is grim, with all that implies for the government's ideas on peace, which put a premium on Palestinian economic development to remove the sting of its tougher political stance.

# Palestinian jailed in Wachsmann case

News agencies

THE Lod Military Court yesterday sentenced a Palestinian terrorist to 22 years in prison for his part in the 1994 kidnaping of IDF soldier Nahshon Wachsmann.

Zakariya Lutfi Najib, 37, was found guilty of providing the Bir Naballah house, belonging to members of his family, where Wachsmann was held by his abductors from Hamas's Izzadin Kassam terror group. Najib also brought food to the kidnapers of the 19-year-old Golani Brigade soldier.

The cousins from whom Najib had rented the house later came to him and told him they were opposed to it being used by the terrorists, but Najib refused to ask them to leave. The cousins then fled to Jordan, the court was told.

The terrorists, dressed as religious Jews, snatched Wachsmann from a soldiers' hitchhiking station near Ben-Gurion Airport in October 1994, took him to the

hideout, and demanded Israel free hundreds of Palestinian prisoners in exchange for his release.

One of Najib's accomplices was jailed last month for his part in the crime. Wachsmann was killed when IDF forces stormed the hideout days after the kidnaping in a failed rescue attempt. An IDF officer and three of the kidnapers were also killed in the raid.

Najib's lawyer said he would appeal against what he described as a severe sentence.

# Girl killed in PA security forces crossfire

JON IMMANUEL

AN 11-year-old girl was killed in Gaza City's Palestine Square yesterday during a clash between regular Palestinian policemen trying to get fruit vendors off the street and a plainclothes preventive security agent who told them to leave the vendors alone.

The preventive security bureau said the policeman tried to arrest and disarm the agent, who fired a bullet which hit the girl, Riba Nidal Hindi, from Jabalya refugee camp, in the stomach. She was shopping with her father at the time. The bureau said the agent would be investigated.

Five or more security forces operate in Gaza. Although their areas of responsibility are supposed to be well defined, their members sometimes clash.

The incident caps a series of incidents in which the Palestinian Police has been severely attacked by Palestinians for its abuse of human rights, primarily the death by torture of two inmates in Nabulus and Ramallah jails, and the shooting death of a Hamas supporter in a Tulkarm riot.

# Yishai seeks to reinstall Torah lessons for IAF

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

LABOR and Social Affairs Minister Eli Yishai has demanded that the Defense Ministry order the immediate resumption of Torah lessons at the Tel Nof Air Force Base.

Yishai said the head of the Tel Nof Air Base, near Gadera, had recently ordered rabbis and civilians to stop giving religious studies classes. Yishai said the order was made after a mother of one of the female soldiers on the base complained to the media.

"Dozens of soldiers and reservists serving on Tel Nof Air Force Base have turned to me, through their parents and wives, to help in this spiritual and valuable matter," Yishai said in a letter to Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

Yishai added he was asked by Shas spiritual leader Rabbi Ovadia Yosef to "expose this new air force policy."

"Repeated demands from soldiers at the base to resume the lessons were rejected by the soldiers' commanders," Yishai said.

Yishai said an awareness of and identity with Judaism increased the motivation to serve among IDF soldiers.

The IDF Spokesman denied the religious courses were ever halted

on Tel Nof Air Base. The army said, however, that two weeks ago rabbis had entered the base to lecture without permits from the proper IDF authorities.

"This was halted, but Torah lessons in the IDF continue as normal," an army statement said. The army stressed that only rabbis who were personally interviewed by the Chief Army chaplain were allowed to teach on army bases.

Meretz MK Ran Cohen vehemently rejected Yishai's demands to continue what he called "letting rabbis proselytize [soldiers] on IDF bases to become newly religious."

"The IDF does not reject teaching Torah on bases as long as it is done under IDF Rabbinat supervision," Cohen said in a statement.

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

THE annual luncheon of Friends of Bikur Holim Hospital in Jerusalem will be held at the city's Laronne Hotel on Monday, August 26 at noon. Mayor Ehud Olmert will be the guest speaker at the event, whose proceeds will go to the construction of an additional floor for the obstetrics department, the fertility program and the high-risk pregnancy unit. The NIS 120 tickets to the event can be obtained from Margo Ades, luncheon chairperson, at 02-5636695.

**EILAT - Hiker's Guide**  
The best guide book on Eilat, from Gefen Publishing  
House and Nature Reserves Authority, Israel.  
**Features 14 one-way hikes, 12 circular trails, 4 car routes.**  
Paperback, 120pp, NIS 50.00 (incl. shipping, also USA)  
P.O.B. 36004 Jerusalem 91360  
Tel: 02-538-0247 Fax: 02-538-0423  
Over 70 color photos Plus 23 color maps  
Listen to Arutz 7, 711 1143 AM 105 FM

**TWO DAYS ON THE GOLAN**  
*First tour full, book for second tour!*  
Widely recognized as perhaps Israel's most important security asset, the Golan is for the moment on the back burner. But it won't be there for long. So what better time than now to join Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post for an in-depth, English-speaking two day tour of the area. We'll visit the settlements, examine the security issues and view the terrain, the animals, the water and the beauty.  
We'll visit Beit Gavriel on the Kinneret, Kfar Haruv and Mitze Shalom, the yeshiva at Hispin, the wineries at Katrin, the Druse village of Ein Kinya, Emek Habachah, Kibbutz Ein Zivan, Gamla, and more. Overnight at Kibbutz Kfar Blum, with a lecture on the Golan's wild animals.  
**The date:** Wednesday/Thursday, Sept. 4 and 5, 1996.  
**The price:** NIS 550. Includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and back, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations, entrance to all sites, half-board accommodation in a double room, lunch and dinner on the first day, breakfast and lunch on the second.  
Pick-up and drop-off along the route when possible, by prior arrangement.  
**Reservations and further information:**  
SHORASHIM, POB 7588, 14 Rehov Abarbanel, Rehavia, Jerusalem 91074  
Tel. 02-666231 (9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.)  
Ask for Romit, Tami or Varda.

To the Wischniewsky family  
Our condolences on the passing of  
**MICHAEL WISCHNIEWSKY** 777  
Nurith and Joel Levi

הללנו את אלוהים



# Russia's Chechen policy in disarray

THE Kremlin's Chechnya policy appeared near chaos yesterday, with conflicting orders and statements, a reclusive president at odds with his security chief and an army making its own conclusions about what to do.

News agencies  
MOSCOW

separatist rebels in the capital, Grozny, and panicked civilians were fleeing by the thousands after a Russian warning of an imminent attack.

Some Russian analysts said the disarray was aggravated by a complex intrigue in which rivals are trying to weaken security council chief Alexander Lebed, who is charged with overseeing the war in Chechnya.

President Clinton is appealing to Russian President Boris Yeltsin to sidetrack a military assault on Chechnya as the breakthrough region comes under heavy bombardment from Russian troops.

Clinton's letter, sent to Yeltsin this week, cited mounting loss of life in Chechnya and concern that there could be tens of thousands of additional casualties if the assault proceeds, US officials said.

"The president wrote Yeltsin expressing those concerns and again encouraging negotiations," said one of the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Clinton contrasted the current volatile situation to last week's when the two sides appeared to be ratcheting down.

"Our great concern is about the threat to use force," the official said yesterday. "The cycle of violence must end. Renewed fighting only prolongs suffering."

And as the fighting escalates reconciliation becomes more difficult, the official said.

In the rebel republic, the military was poised for an all-out assault on

continue peace talks, end the fighting and "restore law and order in Grozny," returning the situation to what it was before rebels captured much of the city in a swift offensive earlier this month.

The presidential order came while both sides were trying to enforce a shaky cease-fire initiated by Lebed. Yeltsin, who also was absent from the Kremlin - for nose surgery - when the war began 20 months ago, then left for two days on what aides described as a pre-vacation trip to a country resort. He returned yesterday, dogged by reports of poor health and even a heart operation.

On Monday, the acting commander in Chechnya, Gen. Konstantin Pulikovskiy, issued an ultimatum for civilians to leave Grozny within 48 hours or face devastating air and artillery attacks. For thousands trapped in basements in the ruined city center, escape appeared impossible.

It was not clear who endorsed Pulikovskiy's step. Pulikovskiy, who lost his son in the Chechen war, may have read Yeltsin's instructions as that endorsement.

Former presidential adviser Emil Fayin said Lebed probably knew of the ultimatum in advance. But Ruslan Aushev, leader of Ingushetia, a region bordering Chechnya, said both Yeltsin and Lebed wanted peace but "Russian generals are putting forward ultimatums."

The Democratic Russia political movement said the army in Chechnya is becoming "an independent political force."



The parents of 19-year-old kidnap victim An Marchal answer journalists' questions from their home in Hasselt, Belgium. They now know that their daughter and her 17-year-old girlfriend were abducted by convicted child rapist Marc Dutroux but are still hopeful that their daughter is alive.

## British help Belgians in sex case

MERISSA MARR  
LONDON

THE detective who led the investigation into Britain's "House of Horrors" serial murders yesterday met Belgian police investigating their country's worst child sex scandal, British police said.

Superintendent John Bennett traveled to Belgium to discuss the case as an international hunt widened for two teenage girls abducted a year ago by convicted child rapist Marc Dutroux.

"At the request of the Belgian police, Superintendent John Bennett of the Gloucestershire Constabulary will be attending a Wednesday meeting in Belgium," said a police spokesman in Gloucester in the west of England where Bennett is based. Police could give no further details of the meeting.

Belgian detectives asked Bennett, who dealt with the 19-month investigation into serial killers Rosemary and Fred West, for advice in their search for further possible victims of an organized pedophile ring.

The sight of Belgian police dig-

ging for bodies at the weekend evoked memories of scenes at the house of the Wests, where British detectives excavated the remains of the couple's dismembered victims.

The Belgian investigation went international as Belgium grappled with revelations of deaths, abductions and imprisonment of children by pedophile kidnappers. Belgian police have spoken to a number of countries in their efforts to find two teenage girls who were abducted a year ago.

News reports have highlighted the Czech Republic, Germany, the Netherlands and France. Dutch police have now reopened a number of dormant dossiers on missing children. The West case shares many characteristics of the Belgian child-sex scandal in which two children have been found dead, two are missing and two have been rescued.

Fred and Rosemary West sexually abused and killed young girls and women who were then chopped up and buried beneath the cellar, bathroom and garden of a house labeled Britain's "House of Horrors".

Police became suspicious when they could not trace the Wests' daughter Heather and they dug up the garden in Cromwell Street in Gloucester in 1994.

In similar scenes, Belgian police at the weekend discovered the corpses of two eight-year-old girls thought to have been victims of an organized pedophilia ring who had been buried in a garden.

Convicted pedophile Dutroux and associate Michel Lelievre led police to the corpses on Saturday. The two men were charged on Friday after police rescued two abducted young girls from a house

owned by Dutroux. Both girls had been sexually abused.

The murdered eight-year-olds had also been sexually abused, but starved to death and were buried in a garden after being kidnapped in June 1995. Dutroux has denied responsibility for the deaths on the grounds that he was serving a four-month jail sentence for theft at the time. He has admitted killing accomplice Bernard Weinstein for letting the girls die.

Dutroux has now admitted kidnapping two other teenage girls but their subsequent fate is a mystery.

Against stern warnings from the prosecutor involved and his own mother, Dutroux was released 10 years early in 1992 from a 13-year sentence for multiple rape and child abuse.

Rosemary West continues to protest her innocence. She was found guilty in November 1995 of murdering 10 women. Fred confessed to killing 12 women and girls but hanged himself in prison before he could face trial. (Reuters)

## German court set to give verdict on US neo-Nazi

HAMBURG (Reuters) - A Hamburg court will deliver its verdict today on US neo-Nazi leader Gary Lauck, accused of running a worldwide propaganda network which has pumped extremist material into Germany for two decades.

Lauck, dubbed the "farm-belt Fuehrer" by US Nazi watchers, has maintained a defiant silence during the three-month trial. He left his lawyer to argue that the court has no right to try him and that his extradition to Germany last year was illegal. But the attorney held out little hope of an acquittal.

"I assume the court will convict him because it has rejected several objections I have raised during the trial and that is the only explanation for the judges' actions," defense lawyer Hans-Otto Sieg told Reuters.

Publishing and distributing neo-Nazi material is illegal in Germany but Sieg insists Lauck broke no laws in the United States and prosecutors have not proved

he was deliberately smuggling material into Germany.

Prosecutors have demanded five years' jail for the 43-year-old from Lincoln, Nebraska, who heads the National Socialist German Workers' Party Foreign Organization (NSDAP-AO) - a name derived from the full German title of Hitler's Nazi party.

Lauck is charged with inciting racial hatred by producing anti-Semitic and rightist publications and propaganda including posters, badges and stickers, and distributing them to Germany and the rest of the world from his home in the United States.

Investigators say Lauck, who sports a thick Hitleresque moustache, was the main source of neo-Nazi material in Germany for about 20 years. But prosecutors have concentrated on the last few years in a bid to secure a quick conviction.

Lauck's only remarks to the court came on the opening day of his trial in May, when he gave

flippant answers in fluent German to a judge's questions about his personal details.

He said he was "not sure" if he was still married and, when asked if he had any children, he replied: "Not as far as I know. I have a dog and two cats."

Lauck's conviction would be a major coup for Nazi-busting prosecutors, who have been trying to get him extradited to Germany for trial for years.

Their chance finally came when the US citizen visited Denmark in March last year.

Police detained him there on an international arrest warrant and the courts decided he could be extradited as, although neo-Nazi propaganda is not illegal there, his material was so extreme it violated Denmark's racial hatred laws.

Lauck is also accused of portraying violence and disseminating insignia and propaganda of anti-constitutional organizations in his publications produced in ten languages.

## South Korean president attacks students

SEOUL (Reuters) - South Korean President Kim Young-sam yesterday accused radical students of waging urban guerrilla warfare in support of Pyongyang and vowed to sternly punish North Korean supporters.

Kim was addressing the heads of 292 colleges a day after riot police stormed Seoul's Yonsei University to end a seven-day occupation by students calling for reunification with North Korea and the withdrawal of US troops stationed in the South.

"This is a violent anti-government revolution that supports North

Korea and can be considered as urban guerrilla warfare," a statement quoted him saying. "The violent forces that challenge government authorities will not be forgiven under any circumstances." Kim said. "The government will never accept violent students who believe in communism and (will) thoroughly punish anarchistic pro-North Korean forces," he said.

About 3,225 students were arrested after riot police stormed a teaching block at Yonsei, smashing through burning barricades of desks and chairs and lobbing stun grenades to dislodge mostly female

undergraduates. "The government will deal with all violent pro-North Korean demonstrations strictly by law," said Kim.

It was the harshest denunciation so far of the student demonstrators, whose leaders have been branded by authorities as Pyongyang stooges intent on using the issue of Korean unification to destabilize the government.

The campus violence was the worst since Kim, a former dissident under the military-backed government, took office in 1993. Students were armed with iron bars and

petrol bombs, and hundreds of riot police, as well as dozens of students, were injured.

More than 5,500 students were arrested in more than one week of unrest at Yonsei.

Authorities have sought to distinguish between what they see as naive students caught up in the protests and the ringleaders who wilfully planned the violence.

Most of the arrested students were expected to get off lightly, but the leaders face prosecution. Arrested students were expected to get off lightly, but the leaders face prosecution.

## Juppe gropes for way out of hunger strike crisis

PARIS (Reuters) - French Prime Minister Alain Juppe summoned nine ministers yesterday to try to break out of a damaging impasse as African immigrants fighting expulsion orders vowed to continue a 48-day hunger strike.

A day after one of the fasters was taken to hospital, the government hinted at a more conciliatory line and Juppe called round-table talks attended by heads of the justice, foreign, interior, and social affairs ministries.

The nine remaining hunger strikers pledged to continue their fast after one was taken to hospital on Tuesday night with stomach pains.

They are flanked by about 300 other protesters occupying the Saint-Bernard church in Paris.

An official said the government would as part of a solution ask the highest administrative court, the Council of State, to review the enforcement of immigration laws, and a kink which means some immigrants cannot be expelled nor granted permits.

Aides said the premier, who returned early from his summer holidays on Tuesday, had consulted the speakers of both houses of parliament, leaders of the two parties in the ruling center-right coalition, and Xavier Emmanuelli, junior minister for emergency humanitarian action.

Interior Minister Jean-Louis Debré, in a letter to actress Marina Vlady who is among protesters, said he shared her concern at the expulsion of illegal immigrants with children legally in France, and pledged not to separate mothers from their children.

At the church, a spokesman for the protesters said 29-year-old Moussa Keita, taken to hospital on Tuesday, was in no danger.

# SAFED

Join us, and discover its secrets

Two-day, English-speaking tour, programmed by Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post Travel Club. This unique, small mountain-top town was the center of Jewish mysticism and Kabbala. For centuries the home of rabbis and sages, and recently of artists, it continues to attract visitors from around the world.

Our tour with local mavin Ya'akov Kazmachar will explore the synagogues, streets and alleys by day and night. We'll also visit famous Mt. Meron of Rabbi Simeon ben Yohai fame and its second century synagogue. While in the area we'll also visit the famous Jordan Park, the Dobrovin House, the highest forested nature reserve in the country, and the reconstituted Huleh Lake, with its large variety of birds, animals, fish and plants.

The dates: Wednesday - Thursday, Sept. 25-26.

Tour guide: Yoni Shapiro  
The Price: NIS 575, includes transportation from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and return, entrance to all sites, background lectures and on-the-spot explanations, accommodation in a double room at the Tel Aviv Hotel, Safed, dinner on the first day and breakfast and lunch on the second. Pick-up and drop-off along the route when possible and arranged beforehand.

For reservations and further information:  
SHORASHIM: POB 7588, 14 Rehov Abarbanel, Rehavia, Jerusalem 91074, Tel. 02-5666231 (9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.). Ask for Romit, Tami or Varda.

# ELISHA TOWERS

In December 1996, occupancy begins at "Elisha Towers"

"Elisha Towers", the most luxurious senior citizen residential center. Work is progressing at a rapid pace, with target date for occupancy set for December 1996. So if you want to show your grandchildren what the good life is like, don't settle for less - choose "Elisha Towers".

- "Elisha Towers" offers apartments of 1 1/2, 2 and 2 1/2 rooms with balconies and special roof apartments and everything that adds zest and interest to life: swimming pool ♦ elegant entrance lobby ♦ central air conditioning ♦ restaurant and cafe ♦ mini market and delicatessen ♦ library ♦ card and game room ♦ fitness rooms ♦ synagogue ♦ parking for residents and guests ♦ guard 24 hours a day ♦ central cleaning and maintenance service ♦ modern shelter and sealed rooms on every floor.

And, of course, individual medical care provided by Elisha Hospital and a nursing wing for all those residents in need of it.

To all this add the breathtaking view of Mt. Carmel and crystal clear mountain air - for a perfect location - the realization of a dream.

Visit our model apartments

To arrange an interview, contact "Elisha Towers" to make an appointment: 12 Yair Katz St., Haifa  
Tel: 04-8389121, 8376756

Developer: Artag Investments Ltd., Mirage - Israel Development Group Ltd.

# The second-hand store can be a real lifesaver

**S**ECOND-HAND clothes are gaining in popularity and increasing numbers of people who once balked at the idea of wearing someone else's discarded threads are now haunting second-hand stores.

The cost factor has a lot to do with this new trend, and the difference in price between a completely new garment and one that is second or even third or fourth-hand, is enormous.

For people whose job or social life or both require them to dress well, but whose income puts severe limits on their purchasing power, the second-hand store is often a lifesaver.

It offers much more variety than the best boutiques and department stores, and the fit is often better than that of a brand new garment, because someone else's body has eased whatever strictures there were in the original shape.

Personally, I could never bring myself to buy second-hand clothes until a friend of mine opened a store, where I would frequently pop in to say hello.

Sometimes when she was busy, I would browse, hold up a couple of items in front of the mirror and put them back. It wasn't that they didn't suit me. It was just that the whole idea of buying second-hand clothes was anathema.

But not everything in the store was second-hand in the true sense

**FLAIR**  
**GREER FAY CASHMAN**

of the word. Many women brought in unworn garments which had been sent to them by relatives from abroad, and when I bought a French-made suit in this category for only NIS 130, I thought I had a real bargain. But it wasn't nearly as good a bargain as the timeless Christian Dior dress which I bought more than a year later.

My friend, who is no longer in the garment business, had cultivated women who regularly brought in good quality, designer-label clothes which were so gently worn and so well cared for that there weren't even the slightest hints of underarm sweat marks.

With a little black dress occasion coming up on my calendar, I hunted high and low in both Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, found nothing that I liked and was unwilling to pay NIS 3,500 for a dress which fitted the bill, but didn't really appeal.

In desperation, I finally landed at my friend's shop - not to say hello, but to moan over the frustration of not being able to find anything.

"I think this is what you're looking for," she said matter of factly as she handed me the Dior dress. Indeed it was. It cost all of NIS

180 and it's still bringing me compliments.

For true individualists, second-hand stores are pure paradise, allowing for a marvelous mix of styles, fabrics and colors which on their own might be considered passe, but put together, make for an exciting, eye-catching outfit.

The biggest patrons of second-hand stores are Russian immigrants, which is why so many of them look so chic in so short a space of time after coming here.

Believe it or not, many socialites also patronize second-hand stores, though not necessarily those in their places of residence. My friend's socialite customers used to come into Jerusalem from Tel Aviv, so that they could be reasonably sure that they wouldn't bump into someone who knew them.

And even if they did, they could always say that they were selling not buying.

In fact, for a lot of women, the second-hand store has become something of a fashion exchange. They bring in clothes they no longer want to wear, thereby chalking up credit in the store.

Then, when the fancy takes them, they choose something from the rack, and pay nothing if their credit has mounted sufficiently, or just a small, symbolic amount to supplement the credit aggregate. It's nearly as good as swapping clothes with one's friends.

# Single parents should know their rights

**CAVEAT EMPTOR!**  
**RUTHIE BLUM**

**E.E.** could not find anything suitable without the assistance of a mortgage. Worried about the high mortgage payments which she could ill afford, E.E. began to inquire about her rights as a "separated" woman. Having been receiving certain benefits from this status (i.e. discounted municipal taxes), E.E. thought she might be granted some leeway here, as well.

What she discovered - after painstaking treks from government offices to mortgage banks - was this: without an actual get, E.E. would not be entitled to special treatment - in spite of her separation agreement.

With a get, she would be eligible to receive quite a high mortgage, with payment terms she could actually manage. In a mad rush, E.E. and her husband made an appointment at the Rabbinical Court for a get.

The following week, E.E. signed a contract on the purchase of a flat. Had E.E. been aware of the existence of "Meichad-Na'amah," she could have saved herself a lot of confusion. For NIS 20 at a local Na'amah office, she could have purchased a very detailed information booklet for single-parent families, providing her with most of the technical information she needs to know as the "single" head of a household with children.

"Meichad-Na'amah" director Tzippi Berkowitz stresses the importance of having an

organization which not only supports women and men faced with the difficult task of raising children on their own, but which fights to improve legislation on their behalf.

"Though the booklet is very detailed, I nevertheless suggest that single parents come to us for assistance," she recommended.

"There are so many facets to this issue, about which many people are unclear. Our organization provides a variety of counselling services - both emotional and legal/financial - which can be invaluable."

Membership to Meichad costs NIS 50 per year for Histadrut members, and NIS 70 for others. This includes a free booklet, discounts on all services provided by the organization (including counselling, workshops, special outings, a regularly updated newsletter (3-4 times a year), and discounts to certain shops.

Non-members can utilize all of the services, but at a higher fee. As of yet, the information booklet exists only in Hebrew. A Russian version was available, but it has not been updated. An Arabic rendition is on the way. All services and (oral) information can be provided in English.

For further information or to make an appointment (and/or receive referrals for your specific needs or questions, closest to your home), phone the Tel Aviv office of "Meichad-Na'amah" (03) 522-0662 and ask for the secretary.

You are invited to offer personal stories about goods and services in this country. Write to: Ruthie Blum, POB 81, 91000 Jerusalem.



Belgium. They now live in Israel but are still hoping for a return.

## case

Both girls had been sexually abused, but the girl who was buried in the sea was kidnapped in Belgium. She was serving a 10-year sentence for the theft of the accused killing of a woman in Belgium. She was serving a 10-year sentence for the theft of the accused killing of a woman in Belgium. She was serving a 10-year sentence for the theft of the accused killing of a woman in Belgium.

## niseries

Apple grapes are ripe and ready for harvest. The weather is perfect for picking. The grapes are sweet and juicy. They are perfect for eating or for making juice. They are perfect for eating or for making juice.

## Apple grapes are ripe and ready for harvest

The weather is perfect for picking. The grapes are sweet and juicy. They are perfect for eating or for making juice. They are perfect for eating or for making juice.



A Nippon Telegraph and Telephone employee demonstrates a handy cellular telephone that you wear on your wrist. Its dialing controls are all voice-activated, so no numerical keypad is necessary. The company says it hopes to market the wrist phone within two years, at a retail price of just under \$500. No word on whether it also can tell time.

# African headdresses make a splash in US

**H**ATS have gone out of style in much of the western world but a show of ancient and modern headdresses from Africa, now traveling around the United States, hints at a small revival.

The exhibit takes note of a wide-brimmed straw hat from Bolgatanga in northern Ghana. "The shape and subdued colors seem to appeal to western as well as African markets," says the catalogue. "for the hats are popular throughout West Africa as well as in shops and street stalls in the United States."

For people handy with a needle or sewing machine, a leading American publisher of patterns, McCall's, has come out with designs for African styles in hats and other articles. Staff members of the Fowler Museum of Cultural History, which put the show together, took a look at the African Marketplace in Los Angeles. They came back with a baseball cap made of keate cloth. The brightly colored cloth originated in Ghana, but is now also made in the US.

In the Los Angeles market the staff also found Islamic skull caps and a style called the garison cap in the U.S. army. Both were made of the patterned, mud-dyed cloth



Illustrations of African headdresses.

of the Bamana people of Mali in central Africa. Others used patterns typical of the Asante people in Ghana and the patchwork cloth of a Muslim group in Senegal.

In Africa, hats and headdresses serve many purposes. In some areas no self-respecting, full-grown man will appear in public without an elaborate traditional hat. Babies may be protected from sun and rain by a bonnet made from half a gourd, finely carved with ethnic symbols and tied under the chin.

Other exhibits in the show are

made not only with brightly colored African parrot feathers, monkey fur, bark, palm fiber, animal manes, wool, hide, clay and metal but also with imported cloth, buttons, mirrors, brass tacks and even pieces of chain mail that may have once been part of a knight's armor in Medieval Europe.

Western hat makers could get some new ideas from a local king in Ghana, Ejisuhenana Nana Diko III. The catalogue shows him wearing his great bright war hat and matching shirt. The show includes a similar war hat. The

ornaments - amulets covered with gold, silver and leather - contain passages from the Koran, which are said to provide the warrior with spiritual protection.

The exhibit also shows how western styles influence what Africans wear. The late reggae star Peter Tosh from Jamaica inspired a wig, now popular in the African republic of Zimbabwe. From a traditional military organization in Ghana, another former British colony, comes a long cotton cap that flows down the wearer's back. The pattern combines the British Union Jack flag and the red-yellow-black tricolor of Ghana. In neighboring Ivory Coast, a former French colony, the old regime is recalled in the shape of wooden hats carved to look like the pith helmet of a colonial planter or the kepi of a French gendarme. Some are lined with brightly colored wallpaper.

The exhibit, called *Crowning Achievements*, opened at the National Museum of African Art in Washington. It will be at the Hood Museum of Art at Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire, Sept 21 to Dec. 1, and at the High Museum of Art in Atlanta, April 22, 1997, to June 15. (AP)

## BARGAIN BASEMENT

- OFFERS**
- KENWOOD FOOD PROCESSOR** - NIS 150; blender, NIS 80; electric knife, NIS 50. 09-7745338.
  - AFCO FOOT MASSAGER** - electric (with water) in very good condition, NIS 300 o.b.o. 03-5230847.
  - AMCOR HEAT PUMP/AIR CONDITIONER** - cooling only, NIS 300. 04-9835006.
  - PLASTIC CHILD'S TABLE** - and 2 chairs, NIS 30; winter jacket and raincoat for 3-year-old girl, NIS 20 each. 09-7744780.
  - AMERICAN WIDE SINGLE BED** - 38" wide, box spring and mattress, NIS 200 o.b.o. 09-828352.
  - SILVER CROSS BABY CARRIAGE** - portable, excellent condition, includes chrome basket, mattress, cover for winter, NIS 300. 08-9281217.
  - CHEST OF DRAWERS** - excellent condition, NIS 300 o.b.o. 09-4334344 after 7 p.m.
  - HOOVER TURBO MASTER** - NIS 300. 03-5230847.
  - STEREO COMPONENTS** - Harmon Kardon, NIS 300. 06-368472.
  - LAST BARRIER TO FREEDOM** - Internment of Jewish Holocaust Survivors in Cyprus 1946-49, by Morris Lamb, autographed, NIS 50; *Assignment in Israel* edited by Bernard Mandelbaum, autographed, NIS 50. 02-6512732.
  - STAMP CATALOGUE** - Vvert & Teller, 1958, Vol. III, overseas, used condition, NIS 45 plus postage. 04-8382068.
  - MINIATURE PAINTING ON JUDAICA** - NIS 300. Yosef, 08-9247891.
  - EPSON DOT-MATRIX PRINTER** - 1 year warranty, mint condition, NIS 350. 02-6785833.
  - 3 GAME GEAR GAMES** - Wonder Boy, Terminator, Tasmania, Space Warrior, Global Gladiators, Defender of the Oasis, NIS 280. 02-566873, NS.
  - SEGA GAME GEAR** - nearly new, NIS 300. 02-6511763, NS.
  - SUKKA** - metallic frame, 2 sets of plastic walls, easy to build, 2.5/3 m., NIS 300. 02-5710651.
  - 3 DRESSES** - designer, worn once by models, size 38 small, NIS 100 each. 02-5636939.
  - DISHWASHER** - General Electric, needs repair, NIS 350. 02-5671976.
  - CLASSICAL GUITAR** - & case, NIS 200; Carmel rug, 1 x 1.5 m., plain light eggplant grey, NIS 100. 02-6780058.
  - ENTERTAINMENT CENTER** - NIS 350. 02-6451468.
  - EPSON PRINTER** - excellent working condition, strong, reliable, NIS 300. 02-6733385.
  - SANDALS** - (Halev Hakachol) brown, 8 1/2 WW, worn twice, NIS 105; black 8 WW, never worn, NIS 120, both wedge heel. 02-6234984.
  - COLOR TV** - NIS 350. 02-736610.
  - MIRROR** - in cast-iron frame, NIS 100; coffee set for 6, unusual, NIS 100. 02-6789845.
  - BEVERAGE DISPENSER** - air pressure powered hot/cold, NIS 130. 02-6791242.
  - CUPBOARD SET** - for children's bedroom, pinewood, NIS 350. 02-816025.
  - WOODEN DESK** - for children's room, NIS 150; long mirror, NIS 50. 02-6634262.
  - TAPESTRY FLOOR FRAME** - 36 inch, imported from England, in perfect condition, NIS 300. 02-341868.
  - MICROGRILL/TOASTER** - NIS 140; vegetable juicer/processor, NIS 130. 02-6512732.
  - '83 OPEL PARTS** - mirror, NIS 70; horn, NIS 50. 02-5749393.
  - WOMEN'S DOWN COAT** - never worn, size 8, NIS 300. 02-341868.
  - BABY CAR SEAT** - to 9 kg. Fisher Price, NIS 100; baby bonnet, reclining seat, NIS 70; play pen, NIS 60. 02-5335448.
  - SUNGLASSES** - Ray Ban's, 2 years old, tortoise shell brown, reinforced arms, NIS 110. 02-610486.
  - ROLLERSKATES** - American brand, men's 10/11, NIS 200 o.b.o. 02-9932126.
  - DELIRIA WINFAX FOR WINDOWS 95** - original disks, manual, NIS 300. 02-5854689, NS.
  - 2 MULTIPLE LINE/EXTENSION TELEPHONE SETS** - used but in good condition, NIS 150 each. 02-5610437, NS.
  - LIVING ROOM ARMCHAIR** - brown in good condition, NIS 150. 02-2619482, 02-5858339, NS.
  - MODAN BOOKBAG** - for first, second grade (Video Power), NIS 60; used booster seat, 2 heights, NIS 60. 02-5361398.
  - TV TABLE ON WHEELS** - NIS 75; table linen, NIS 3-25; light adaptor for Hunter fan, NIS 15; silk flower arrangement on brass container, NIS 75. 02-5666230.
  - ELECTRIC CUTTER FOR TRIMMING GRASS EDGES** - almost never used, NIS 200; TV trolley, NIS 120. 02-5858339, NS.
  - GIRLS BIKE** - one speed, age 8-10, NIS 100; sandals, Lands End, women's black, new, size 10, NIS 75. 02-794276.
  - HOUSECOAT** - large size, floor length, women's, flowered, NIS 100. 02-6651793, 28207, NS.
  - CASIO ORGAN** - with stand, 4 octaves, in very good condition, NIS 300. 02-5361987, NS.
  - TABLE** - NIS 150, can seat 6-8. 02-5661106.
  - FOOT MASSAGE BATH** - new in box, NIS 300; beach chair, new, NIS 50. 02-5632595.
  - BLACK FRENCH WOMEN'S SHOES** - size 40, new, NIS 150; size 40, used, NIS 100; American pilot's sunglasses, NIS 50. 02-827312.
  - 5 JALAPENO PEPPER PLANTS** - NIS 10 each; electric hand mixer, 3 speeds, NIS 60. 02-6242749.
  - NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** - copies from 1978 to 1985, NIS 8 each. 02-786236.
  - NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC** - 69 issues, January 1990 to December '95, NIS 200. 02-6784108, after 4 p.m.
  - TOASTER OVEN** - new, with hotplate, NIS 200; no-odor diaper disposal unit, NIS 100. 02-833219, NS.
  - PANASONIC ANSWERING MACHINE** - like new, NIS 300. 02-5670680.
- WANTED**
- SCALES UP TO 25 KG** - 08-8508432.
  - "TEE SLING"** - for carrying baby; also baby playpen. Sarah, 02-781147.
  - GENZA SOCIETY** - needs machos to help in storing books to give to libraries, yeshivot. 02-6513741.
  - YOUTH BED** - 3 levels, in very good condition. 02-832310.
  - GAS STOVE/OVEN** - good condition. 20-9932301.
  - ENTHUSIASTIC MUSICIANS** - for amateur orchestra, classical repertoire, Monday rehearsals, details: 02-342511/5342521.
  - FOLDING TABLE** - must be stable, reasonable price. 02-5839177.
  - TAPE OF GOLD MEDAL GAME** - "Dream Team" vs. Yugoslavia, would like to borrow. 02-5611240.
- IRM COMPATIBLE 386** - with color screen. 02-439916.
- GUITAR TEACHER** - for beginner, weekly lessons, in Katamon, Rehavia, German Colony, etc. 02-692480.
- FINAL REGISTRATION** - Me'ale Adunim English School. Can Hava to grade 3. Call Ly 02-354988 or Adina 02-353399 NS.
- PLAYGROUP** - looking for mothers with children aged 1 1/2 - 2 1/2 in September to form small playgroup in Baka/German Colony area. 734329, NS.
- CLOTHING DISTRIBUTION CENTER** - children's, men's, women's (also maternity), R. Shmuel Hanavi near Menorah Flatsover (Bldg. 6/10), Sun.-Tues. 7-9 p.m.; Mon, Wed., Thurs., 9:30-12:30 a.m. 824924.
- KEREN KLITA** - seeks furniture for new olim, will collect. 788277, NS.
- STOREROOM FOR OLIM** - appliances, household goods (pots, pans, dishes, etc.), old furniture, etc. Sun. to Thurs., 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Fri., 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 24 Ha'uman St., Telport. 796848.
- PETS**
- KITTENS** - wide variety of colors, healthy, playful, loving - free to good homes. 02-283521, NS.
  - KITTEN** - male, green-eyed, cute, black & white, 3 months old, friendly, affectionate, free to loving home. 02-5356558.
  - LAST OF LITTER** - true beauty, ginger white, well-trained, inside-outside, kitten, used to dogs. 02-6411242.
  - PAIR OF YOUNG LOVEBIRDS** - 1 Fisher, 1 Moked. 02-4366688.
  - TWINS** - black & white kittens, will melt your heart, need loving home. 02-6436372.

Sorry, no listings accepted without a coupon

**BARGAIN BASEMENT - FREE CLASSIFIEDS**

BARGAIN BASEMENT accepts ads of up to 20 words free of charge on these conditions: Only one ad per household per week. The LIMIT per ad in the 'offers' section is a TOTAL of NIS 350, and the price of each item must be stated in shekels. The following ads are NOT accepted: business offers; apartment sales; rentals or exchanges; car sales; job offers; situations wanted; solicitations for donations; offers of marriage or other personal relationships. Ads must be printed in English and submitted on the attached coupon. ADS MAY NOT BE SUBMITTED BY PHONE OR FAX. The right to reject or edit any ad is reserved.

Ads must reach The Bargain Basement, The Jerusalem Post, Fishov Yirmeyahu in Romema (POB 81, Jerusalem 91 000) by NOON Sunday of the week of publication. Because of space limitations, ads may be held over and published the following week.

The price of each item must be stated

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Tel. \_\_\_\_\_  
MESSAGE \_\_\_\_\_

# THE JERUSALEM POST

F. DAVID RADLER, Chairman, Board of Directors  
YEHUDA LEVY, President & Publisher

Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON

JEFF BARAK, Managing Editor  
ALEC ISRAEL, Associate Editor, Copy  
DAN IZENBERG, News Editor  
DAVID BRINN, Night Editor  
SAM ORBAUM, Features Editor  
THOMAS O'DWYER, Foreign Editor  
JUDY MONTAGU, Op-Ed Editor  
AMOTZ ASA-EL, Business Editor

AVI GOLAN, Executive Vice President, Marketing & Advertising  
PAUL STASZEWSKI, CPA, Vice President, Finance  
YOSSI HORN, Vice President, Production  
STANLEY SCHRIGER, Circulation Manager  
BENZION MILLER, Tel Aviv Office Manager

EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem 91000  
Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9227. CIRCULATION—02-531-5610, Fax 02-538-9017. ADVERTISING—02-531-5608,  
02-531-5637-40 Fax 02-538-8408. TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Haemagim, P.O.B. 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333, Fax 6390277.  
HAIFA 20 Nordau, Hador Hacammel, Telephone 04-8623166. Published daily except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine  
Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1996. Reproduction,  
or storage in a retrieval system, or in any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-  
1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN-DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS  
INTERNET EDITION: http://www.jpost.co.il General E-mail: jpost@jpost.co.il Editorial E-mail: editors@jpost.co.il  
Subscriptions E-mail: subs@jpost.co.il

## No freelance diplomats needed

ONE can hardly envy Shimon Peres these days. Having been defeated by a razor-thin majority just when his famously cursed political luck was on the verge of finally coming to terms with his grand diplomatic designs, he has every right to feel like Moses on Mount Nebo. But even if regional peace — Peres's version of the promised land — has evaded him, the opposition leader must understand that the validity of the public's verdict cannot be questioned, explicitly or implicitly. Meeting with old friends in the Arab world is of course Peres's right, but publicizing — well in advance — a meeting with King Hassan while the Moroccan leader reportedly refuses to meet with Israel's premier and foreign minister, is unthinkable. And as for his planned meeting today with Palestinian Authority head Yasser Arafat, it is hard to see anything positive emerging from such a get-together. Naturally, it is Labor's right — in fact, its responsibility — to challenge the government in the Knesset, in the media and, if necessary, on the streets. But conducting such activity abroad is an entirely different matter. It was not that long ago that Labor attacked various representatives of the Israeli Right for launching an anti-Oslo campaign on Capitol Hill. Labor was right then, as the Likud is right today, in demanding that opposition activity not extend beyond our shores. Indeed, off-shore anti-government activity is ordinarily the lot of residents of totalitarian regimes, who are barred from speaking their minds in their own countries. Moreover, Peres's emerging course of action — to trot the globe as a self-appointed peace emissary while still donning the title of head of the

## Moving to the center

WITH great fanfare, a small hole was drilled into a Tel Aviv street this week. This hole, we are told, is the first step in the construction of the long-awaited Tel Aviv subway system, which itself will eventually be part of a mass transit system linking all of Israel's population centers. Given the predictions that the number of people commuting to Tel Aviv is to double by the year 2010, a subway system for the city's metropolitan area is a necessity, not a luxury. Indeed, Tel Aviv Municipality officials say the city's roads are already unable to cope with the daily traffic. A rail system would save the nation untold hours in commuting time — which translates, of course, into hours more of productive work time — and would be the catalyst for development in key areas of Tel Aviv and its environs. With fast, efficient transportation to the center, communities on the city's periphery would become more attractive, and more residents could realize their dream of having a bit more space at home while working in the city. The light rail system that would feed into the subway would better link outlying cities like Beersheba with the rest of the country, making them more attractive locations to both live in and invest in. It is encouraging to see 30 years of talk final-

Israeli opposition — is likely to achieve little in terms of promoting peace. Instead, it is more likely to damage Peres's own precarious political reputation. Peres's plans to act abroad behind the government's back is tragically reminiscent of his ill-fated "London Agreement" of 1987 with King Hussein, arranged when he was foreign minister. That deal, which would have transformed relations with Amman, was aborted by then-prime minister Yitzhak Shamir. Diplomatically, that attempt to forge a breakthrough with Amman was forward-looking; one could argue it might have prevented the intifada, since the agreement would have placed much of the territories under Jordanian influence. Politically, however, the maneuver merely alienated a great deal of the electorate, which received the impression that Peres was disloyal to his own prime minister. Freelance diplomacy by former statesmen is neither illegal nor inadvisable. Some people, most notably Jimmy Carter, have been practicing it for quite a while now, with success that sometimes surpasses what they achieved during their terms in office. But to engage in that sort of activity one must first retire from politics, and then be asked by the belligerent parties to arbitrate between them. Peres, by his own admission, has no intention of retiring until at least next year, when his party settles on its new leader. And so, until he leaves political life, Peres should recognize that while some of our adversaries may be fond of him, his own country did not bestow on him the right to either represent it, or interfere in the business of those whom it did elect.

ly shifting into action, backed by serious financing plans and feasibility studies. But it is worrisome to hear the wide range of estimates as to when we will see sleek carriages whisking happy commuters down the tracks. Tel Aviv Mayor Ronni Milo says work will commence within 18 months to two years, but Ports and Railways Authority head Shoshet Lerer says that just to plan the railroad will take five or six years. The construction of subway systems is a notoriously slow and expensive enterprise, but unless ambitious deadlines are set, things are guaranteed to move forward slowly, if at all. Israel needs a mass transit system too desperately to leave its construction to a business-as-usual bureaucratic time frame. Unlike much government spending, the outlay to build such a system is an important investment in the country's economy and future. When John F. Kennedy announced in 1961 that before that decade was out the United States would put a man on the moon, many did not believe it was possible. They were proven wrong. Building a mass transit system is not rocket science; the technology and know-how is there. But it may take setting a firm and ambitious deadline to focus the political and bureaucratic apparatus on getting the job done quickly and efficiently.



## Second choice first

There are many in Israel who shrug their shoulders with indifference when the word "Hebron" comes up on television, the radio or in the papers. Very few ever visited the city. Most of them would not even contemplate stepping foot anywhere near this second holiest of Jewish cities. Yet Hebron is a time-bomb waiting to be ignited by the Palestinians. Control of that city is now the lynchpin in the future plans of both Yasser Arafat and Hamas chiefs. Particularly as the victory of the national camp in the last election made it clear that the Palestinian flag would not be permitted to fly over the Temple Mount as planned by the Labor administration. That event would have justified the almost daily claim made by the PLO chief that "Jerusalem is now the capital of the Palestinian people."

That proud moment of Fatah's symbol fluttering high over the Western Wall would have rubbed the noses of every Jew everywhere into the dust as television cameras flashed the shame to all four corners of the globe. Despite the dithering, internal bickering and petty indecisiveness of the Netanyahu government, it is unlikely that any such fawning concession will be made in the name of Oslo's "Peace in our time" approach, at least for the next four years.

The strategy of the Palestinian Authority and Hamas directed from Gaza, is: "If not Jerusalem, then let us at least make sure of controlling Hebron." To this end, immense pressure is being exerted by Arab leaders, who say that unless there is a full deployment from Hebron as agreed with the last government, the whole peace process will come to an end. This is followed by fearsome threats of fresh violence. There are those who say: "There are only a few

hundred Jews there, why not evacuate them? Or if they want to stay there, let them. The army will protect them. If we can have peace — it's a good deal." But is it? The terms of the deployment are such that there will be no need to physically massacre the Jews there. The lives of the Jewish Hebron settlers will be strangled. Arafat will have total control of the areas surrounding the Jewish enclave

in May, when a quick-thinking Golani Brigade soldier spotted him by luck and shot him from a distance of 40 meters.

JUST HOW close is the link between Arafat and Hamas was seen when the driver of his van was found to be Razik Rajoub, a close relative of Fibril Rajoub, the head of the Palestinian Security Service. Fibril Rajoub wields the big stick for Arafat by arresting, torturing, and killing his Arab critics. In the van were weapons including a machine gun and grenades. Just how closely Arafat is cooperating with terrorists is clear by the way that the top Hamas terror chief, Mohammed Dief, Salame's boss, is a free man in Gaza. This despite Arafat's claim to a naive Israeli television interviewer that he is "doing his best to stop terrorists operating from the areas he controls."

There is apprehension in intelligence circles that after a redeployment in Hebron, Hamas, Islamic Jihad and Fatah groups would go on the rampage, hoping to win concessions over Jerusalem. Agriculture and Environment Minister Rafael Eitan (Tsomet) warned a few days ago that there are clear signs that the flow of arms pouring into Gaza, Judea and Samaria, shows no sign of drying up. The smuggling of 500 Kalachnikov automatic rifles across the Dead Sea from Jordan is sufficient to equip an entire regiment of commandos, he said, adding: "There is no control of many Jordanians and Egyptians in the country." These might be intelligence agents determining where how and how best to operate against the Israeli army from either Gaza or, more easily, out of Hebron.

The writers are authors of The Mossad: Secrets of the Israeli Secret Service and other books on the Middle East.

Salame's reign of terror ended

After redeployment in Hebron, terror groups might rampage to win concessions in Jerusalem

URI DAN  
DENNIS EISENBERG

may be they would no longer care to become good at it, and then where would we be? We're about to find out. I've gotten my wish, and now I'm beginning to wish I had it back.

WHEN DEFENSE Minister Yitzhak Mordechai asks a roomful of over 100 recruits how many of them want to join combat units, and three raise their hands, while the others explain that they "don't have the strength" and "don't want to strain themselves," we have a problem.

Most of the reasons are well-known: the selfishness that comes from being *nouveau riche*; the previous government's premature declaration of peace; the disillusionment since the Lebanon War; and the intifada. Talking with some teenagers at Dizengoff Center, I heard another reason. "Kids today have complete freedom," they said. "Our parents can't control us: the youth have become stronger, more independent. Nobody wants to stop what he's doing and have some army officer start pushing him around, telling him what to do." Finally, Israel has a youth rebellion, a generation gap. Another wish granted, damn it to hell.

One 16-year-old boy from Holon actually said he "plans to dodge the draft just like Aviv Geffen." Asked if he believed, nevertheless, that Israel needed an army, the boy replied, "Definitely." Why? "To defend the homeland," he said.

Would any of those aching draftees in the room with Mordechai have suggested that Israel doesn't need combat soldiers? No, they just didn't see themselves in that role. The settler's kids will do it. The Bnei Akiva kids will do it. These are the only circles where enthusiasm for the army isn't falling fast. Sure, there'll still be plenty of secular combat soldiers, but not like before. We'll have another schism in Israeli society between the secular boys who are ready to strain and those who aren't. This is really not what I had in mind. Army worship is on the wane, but with it is going one of the truly great things that the IDF engendered: the basic principle that if other people are going through hell and risking their lives, then I have to as well. The danger to our security goes without saying. The bathwater is draining down. I hope we can save the baby.

The writer is a freelancer.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**MINORITY RIGHTS**  
Sir, — In 1963, Martin Luther King Jr. delivered a famous address in which he stated, "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: we hold these truths to be self-evident that all men (and women) are created equal." Although Dr. King was referring to the rights of oppressed minorities in the US, his principles also apply to the rights of *haredi* Jews who are a minority in Israel today. They are literally being denied equal rights. The conflict surrounding Jerusalem's Bar-Ilan Street demonstrates the degree to which the *haredim* have been marginalized. Insensitive drivers cruise up and down the street during Shabbat in a blatant display of disrespect for both social justice and Jewish culture. Is it not unjust for the majority to antagonize the *haredi* minority? Is not democracy based upon respect for minority rights?  
Jerusalem.  
MARK HARDIE

**ISRAELI ARABS**  
Sir, — Environment and Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan's decision to cancel the outgoing government's decision to recognize the Israeli Arab village of Ein Hod near the Carmel Nature Reserve is not only unjustifiable, but morally reprehensible. In fact, money was already allocated for infrastructure, some of which was already begun. Some other 40 odd villages have remained unrecognized (some dat-

**TRADITIONAL MAJORITY**  
Sir, — In your editorial of August 7, "Peace at home," you write "...there are things that can be done that will improve relations with the secular majority without conflicting with the interest of the religious public."  
There is not a secular majority in Israel. There is a traditional majority.  
ZALMAN C. BERNSTEIN,  
Chairman, AVI CHAI  
New York.

**SACRED COW**  
Sir, — The clearest proof that Ya'acov Ne'eman's claim of discrimination against the employment of religious Jews at the ministry of justice is correct are the facts: The overwhelming proportion of important posts in this ministry are held by secular Ashkenazis with Labor or Meretz political views. The most recent major appointment, State Attorney Edna Arbel, characteristically made by the Labor government just before the elections, typifies how this clique perpetuates itself. Needless to say, the grounds are always "professional expertise."  
Bending Judaism to accommodate laws and a legal establishment serving specific social and political interests harm the cohesion and the survivability of the Jewish State. The outrage expressed in the media and the press whenever the composition and bias of this establishment are attacked is politically motivated and hypocritical. It is high time to end the blind worship of this golden calf, which is fast becoming a sacred cow.  
YOHANAN RAMATI  
Jerusalem.

**HULLABALOO**  
Sir, — All this hullabaloo about the admirers of Yigal Amir and what these young girls said or did should perhaps bring a change to the great freedoms that the press, TV and radio arrogate to themselves. I would suggest that, just as it is forbidden to report juveniles' names in criminal cases, it should be forbidden to interview juveniles without the consent of the parents or lawyer.  
MURRAY S. GREENFIELD  
Tel Aviv.

## PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



The most beautiful woman in the world has gone to pot. At left, Venezuelan Alicia Machado, 19, is seen winning the Miss Universe contest in May; she was so excited that she went on an eating binge, gained 12 kilos, and paged officials to lose the blubber — in just two weeks — or risk losing her crown. The threat was later rescinded. As soon as she won she started to eat, moaned an official, adding that she has a weakness for pastas and cakes. Alicia stands 1.73 meters (5'7") and weighed 51 kilos (112 pounds) at the time of the contest.  
(AP; Reuters)

הלוא מן האוכל



# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Thursday, August 22, 1996

## C&W calls for Bezeq public share offering

DAVID HARRIS

BEZEQ shareholder Cable & Wireless yesterday called for it to be privatized by offering shares to the public, rather than by selling a controlling interest to a strategic investor. The British C&W holds 10.02 percent of Bezeq's shares.

"Cable & Wireless supports the Israel Government's endeavors to achieve a public flotation of shares and with its privatization of Bezeq," a company statement said yesterday. "Cable & Wireless is in continuous contact with the Government of Israel and will continue to be so."

The government retains a 66% stake in Bezeq, with the remainder, after C&W's holdings, having been sold in a public offering.

Through the previous government had decided to offer the shares to the public, many in government still are not certain whether this is the best method, or if a controlling share should be sold to one investor.

"The split is not between the ministers and their officials, but rather that the experts are not sure which road to take," said a senior

Communications Ministry source.

While C&W is clearly the best-placed company to increase its interest in Bezeq, several potential foreign investors have also expressed considerable interest.

One factor deterring the government from selling a controlling share is time, since it would take much longer than a share flotation, as it would require new legislation.

Such a move would displease Bezeq, which is calling for early action from the government.

"Bezeq is very much in favor of a flotation," company spokeswoman Ella Bar-Or said last night. "The company is ready for the immediate sale of shares. We are just waiting for the government's decision."

Before that comes, Bar-Or said, the government must work out its approach to C&W, which, since increasing its stake from 7.01% to 10.02% last year, is now represented on Bezeq's board.

The Prime Minister's Office, which is responsible for privatization, last night refused to comment.

## Europeans lift liens on Bezeq's loans

JUDY SIEGEL

EUROPEAN banks have removed the lien on Bezeq income as a guarantee for loans it took during the past year, the firm said yesterday.

Bezeq director-general Yitzhak Kaul said this showed the world banking system was expressing "full faith" in the company.

Until recently, when Bezeq took loans from European banks, it had to give guarantees in the form of "liens" - some from expected income from overseas calls. When it took a loan from the Swiss bank UBS, liens were placed on \$300 million in income from American telecommunications companies. In addition,

\$30m. in income from overseas calls involving European, African and South American telecommunications companies were used as guarantees to the BW bank, and DM25m. of income from calls between Israel and Germany were put on a lien to the BHF bank.

Bezeq deputy director-general for finances, Avi Hochman, said the company has been getting loans on the international capital markets at good terms and without liens since the end of last year. As a result, Bezeq successfully renegotiated earlier loans to also remove those liens.

## Grofman resigns as Africa Israel GM

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

AFRICA Israel Investments' general manager Shlomo Grofman yesterday submitted his resignation to the holding company's board of directors.

Mordechai Meir, a director in Africa Israel, was appointed acting general manager until Moshe Vidman, general manager of Revlon, could be formally installed in Grofman's place.

Grofman announced his decision during a board meeting which gathered in order to discuss his fate. At the meeting, which began Tuesday afternoon and continued through yesterday morning, the directors made it plain to Grofman that if he did not resign, he would be dismissed. Grofman was not actually present at the meeting, but was informed of what was said.

Grofman was not available yesterday for comment.

During the last few weeks, Grofman has been subject to much criticism from Bank Leumi's board of directors as well as some of Africa Israel's directors. Grofman, who is also chairman of the Migdal insurance company, objected to Bank Leumi's preferred method for selling Africa Israel, which involves splitting the company into its insurance holdings (mainly Migdal) on the one hand, and the rest (real estate, industry and tourism) on the other.

Grofman favors selling the bank as one unit on the grounds that it is worth more with Migdal, while Leumi contends it would get a

higher price if Migdal is sold separately.

Several weeks ago, Bank Leumi signed a letter of intent to sell 40% of Migdal to the Italian Assicurazioni Generali, according to a company valuation of about \$1 billion. In addition, Bank Leumi is interested in reducing its holdings in Africa Israel to 25% from 50% in accordance with the newly revised Banking Law.

Bank Leumi is currently waiting for the Treasury to give it a six-month extension of the December 31 deadline for the sale of its surplus non-banking assets. If it does not receive the extension, the complicated Generali deal will most probably be cancelled and the bank will have to sell Africa Israel as one unit.

Sources close to Grofman said the manager has stated on several occasions that if Migdal is sold separately from Africa Israel or the company is sold off to someone he objects to, he will resign. The sources said they are unaware of Grofman's future plans.

In a press release, Africa Israel's board of directors expressed appreciation for Grofman's contribution to the company. Grofman will remain manager of the firm until September 24.

Until then, he has been asked to train Mordechai Meir, a director in Africa Israel. Until recently, Meir was general manager of Sahar Holdings, a company controlled

by Bino Zadik and involved, among others, in insurance business.

Meir will manage the firm until it is possible to appoint Vidman as general manager. Vidman, a director in Africa Israel and a close associate of Bank Leumi chairman Eitan Raff, will join Africa Israel as soon as an appropriate replacement is found for him at Revlon.

The board of directors has appointed a team of board members to sort out Grofman's retirement conditions.

Grofman, aged 57, joined Africa Israel in 1978. He served as general manager of Africa Israel during the past 17 years and significantly contributed to the company's growth and turned it into one of the more successful real estate, insurance and tourism companies in the country. In the business sector, he is considered a very successful, independent manager that does not give up easily. In the past, Grofman had nasty confrontations with Moshe Sanbar, former chairman of Bank Leumi.

Africa Israel is expected to publish its financial statements for the second quarter in the next few days.

The company completed the first quarter with a 15-percent growth in net profits - NIS 33.6 million from NIS 29m. in the corresponding period last year.

Meanwhile, Africa Israel Hotels, a subsidiary of Africa Israel, yesterday announced a 360% growth in net profits, to NIS 8.06 million.

## Cellcom turnaround boosts Discount Investments' profits

COMPANY RESULTS  
GALIT LIPKIS BECK

DISCOUNT Investments, a member of the IDB Group, completed the second quarter of 1996 with a 28 percent growth in net profits, mainly due to a dramatic improvement in the performance of its subsidiary Cellcom.

The investment company announced a second quarter net profit of NIS 50 million compared with a net profit of NIS 39m. in the same period in 1995. Net profits in the first six months of the year grew 43% to NIS 102m. compared with NIS 71m.

The company's share in the profits of its related companies increased to NIS 53m. in the second quarter compared with NIS 43m. The highest growth was registered in the electronics and communications sector following the dramatic improvement in Cellcom, one of the country's two

cellular phone operators.

CellCom, which has 380,000 subscribers, ended the second quarter with a net profit of NIS 4m. compared with a net loss of NIS 50m. in the same period last year. Cellcom completed the first six months of the year with a net profit of NIS 12m. compared with a net loss of NIS 90m. in the corresponding period in 1995.

The results were partly offset by Scitex, which reported a second quarter net loss of \$6m. compared to a net profit of \$2m. last year. In the industrial sector many of the companies suffered from the drop in the dollar and increased competition. Iscar, Tambour, Blades Technology, Kilil and Mul-T-Lock

all reported lower earnings.

American Israel Paper Mills, which signed a partnership agreement with Kimberly Clark in June, registered capital gains of \$13m.

In the first six months of the year Discount registered capital gains of NIS 13m. from the sale of Supersol shares and sale and capital issue of Nice.

The combined revenues of the group's industrial-based companies in the second quarter increased to \$800m. compared with \$700m.

Overseas revenues rose to \$550m. from \$520m. Investments amounted to NIS 56m. in the first six months of the year.

The directors declared an interim dividend of NIS 15m. which will be paid out in October 1996.

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

Credit Lyonnais denies negligence over rescue loan: Ailing Credit Lyonnais yesterday denied a newspaper report alleging its chairman may have been negligent in taking too long to arrange swap cover for a huge loan that threatens to plunge the state bank back into the red.

The report in the Paris newspaper Liberation "is completely false," a bank spokesman said. The daily said the Finance Ministry believed the bank committed a "monumental error" in waiting to cover the loan arranged as part of a state rescue of Credit Lyonnais and said it was targeting chairman Jean Peyrelevade as the culprit.

The Finance Ministry said it had no comment on the report which claimed the bank could have saved billions of francs in losses had it entered into swap agreements on the loan earlier. Swaps are concentrated into swap agreements to hedge against risks such as interest rate and foreign exchange movements.

France raps US over Cuba sanctions: France rapped the United States yesterday over its plans to ban Mexican executives from its territory under controversial sanctions on foreign firms doing business with Cuba. "Such a unilateral step, contrary to international trade rules, is not acceptable," Foreign Ministry spokesman Yves Doutriaux told reporters.

"France deplores this fresh implementation of a legislation with it firmly opposes, as do its European Union partners," he told a regular news briefing. He said Paris was in contact with Mexican authorities about the case. Mexico's Grupo Domos telecommunications company was the second foreign concern hit by the Helms-Burton law tightening the 35-year-old US trade embargo against Cuba.



A Palestinian shop clerk arranges a display of Pepsi Cola bottles in an Al-Bireh store, after the Palestinian Authority gave merchants until tomorrow to get rid of their stocks or have them seized. The PA temporarily banned Pepsi sales after discovering a defective shipment was distributed in the territories.

## NATIONAL INSURANCE INSTITUTE

### ALLOWANCE FOR CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MALIGNANT ILLNESSES

According to changes in the National Insurance regulations, effective July 1, 1996, the criteria for receiving the "incapacitated child's allowance" for children suffering from a malignant illness, including babies aged over 90 days, have been widened.

- The principal changes are as follows:
1. This allowance was previously paid only during the time the child was undergoing chemotherapy. Henceforth, the allowance will also be paid while a child is undergoing radiation treatment, as well as for six months after the completion of treatment (chemotherapy or radiation).
  2. The allowance will also be paid to children who suffer from a permanent, serious secondary condition caused by chemotherapy or radiation treatment.

- Level of the allowance:
- Babies and children up to the age of 14 who do attend kindergarten/school for the most part will receive a monthly allowance equal to 25% of the national average wage (NIS 1,222 in August 1996).
  - Children aged 14 - 18 who attend school for the most part will receive a monthly allowance equal to 30% of the national average wage (NIS 1,466 in August 1996).

For further information, contact any branch of the National Insurance Institute.

Information and Public Relations  
National Insurance - The Right to Feel Secure

PRIME Mutual Fund for Foreign Residents	תמורה מוטואל פונד לדימונים זרים
Date: 20.8.96	תאריך: 20.8.96
Purchase Price: 110.11	מחיר קנייה: 110.11
Redemption Price: 108.66	מחיר קנייה: 108.66

## Ministry to farmers: We're trying to help you

DAVID HARRIS

THERE will be a so-called government "security net" for the prices of locally grown flowers this year, Agriculture Ministry director-general Danny Krichman pledged this week.

Speaking after dozens of farmers demonstrated in Tel Aviv against the possible effects of the cabinet-approved budget cuts, Krichman said the current financial hardship facing growers is receiving intense attention in the ministry.

The Agriculture Ministry is one of those earmarked for sweeping cuts to its 1997 budget, totaling NIS 150 million.

Meanwhile, over the next fortnight, the Agricultural Workers Union will hold nine emergency sessions to examine various ways "to strengthen the struggle against the destructive agricultural policies of the government."

Among the organization's complaints are the continued use of the production councils as controlling and supervising tools; the reduction in the investment budget in agriculture and the increase in the prices of fresh water.

In recent days the Finance and Agriculture ministries agreed on a compromise water-pricing arrangement.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE - Accountant General

### Tender No. 11/96: Office Cleaning and Similar Supplies

Bids are invited for the supply of office cleaning and similar supplies, for government agencies located throughout Israel.

The supplies required are:

1. Plastic bags, gloves, closures, and packing materials.
2. Single-use articles of aluminum, plastic and expanded polystyrene.
3. Brooms, squeegees, brushes, rush mats, and broom sticks.
4. Buckets, waste baskets, and plastic containers.
5. Haberdashery items and miscellaneous articles.
6. Various apparatuses.
7. Textile, metal and plastic products for drying, cleaning, scrapping, and polishing.

Preference will be given to Israeli manufactured goods, in accordance with the Mandatory Tenders Law and associated regulations.

Last date for submitting bids: Tuesday, September 24, 1996, at 12 noon.

Bid forms are available between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. from August 22 to September 24, 1996, from the Tenders and Buying Department, The Accountant General's Office, Room 714 or 715, 7th floor, Min. of Finance Building, 1 Rehov Kaplan, Jerusalem 91131.

Bids, by fax only should be sent to 02-317778, giving the following details:

Tender number: \_\_\_\_\_ Subject of tender: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of bidding company: \_\_\_\_\_ Authorized trader No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of company, including milkud: \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of bank: \_\_\_\_\_ No. of branch: \_\_\_\_\_ Account No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (at which bidder has an account)

Additional details may be obtained from 02-317418, 02-317428.  
 No undertaking is given to accept the lowest or any bid.

## Michigan sues tobacco firms for \$14b.

LANSING, Mich. (Reuters) - Michigan became the 13th state to take the tobacco industry to court, filing a lawsuit yesterday seeking \$14 billion in damages from major tobacco firms and their wholesale distributors.

Michigan Attorney-General Frank Kelley said the suit, which names 28 separate defendants, sought \$2b. in restitution to the state for past smoking-related health care costs, \$2b. for future anticipated health care costs and \$10b. in punitive damages.

The suit, filed in Ingham County Circuit Court in Lansing, also asks the court to order tobacco firms to:

- Disclose all research information on the effects of smoking that relates to public health issues.
- Pay for a corrective education campaign on the impact of smoking and nicotine addiction and pay for smoking cessation programs.
- Issue corrective statements on the health risks of smoking and stop ads that target children.
- Pay civil penalties for violations of the Consumer Protection and Antitrust Reform acts and pay reasonable attorney fees and costs.

"Every year in Michigan, thousands of addicted smokers die from using tobacco company products precisely as the merchants of death have designed and intended for those products to be used," Kelley said in a statement.

"Through a well-organized campaign of fraud, lies, intimidation and deception, the tobacco companies have avoided legal responsibility for engineering, manufacturing and selling the most deadly and harmful consumer product in history while reaping billions of dollars in profit," he said.

## EU blasts US moves against Iran, Libya

DUBLIN (Reuters) - The European Union said yesterday it would appeal to the World Trade Organization if the United States punished European firms doing business with Iran and Libya.

"The EU does not believe that this legislation is an appropriate or an effective means of combating international terrorism," said a statement issued by Ireland on behalf of the 15-nation EU.

It said the law could damage the system of world trade and urged the US to work with its partners to promote an open international trading environment.

"The Union reaffirms its determination to act in the appropriate international fora, including the World Trade Organization, in defense of... the interests of member state companies if these are affected by the legislation," it said.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS			
Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (28.7.96)			
Currency (deposit for)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	3.875	4.000	5.375
Pound sterling (£100,000)	4.875	4.775	4.783
German mark (DM 200,000)	1.750	1.875	2.250
Swiss franc (SF 200,000)	1.000	1.125	1.500
Yen (10 million yen)	-	-	-

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (21.8.96)			
Currency basket	CHECKS AND TRANSFERS		Rep. Rates**
	Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	3.5128	3.5695	3.5418
German mark	3.1223	3.1727	3.1470
French franc	4.8293	4.9072	4.878
Japanese yen (100)	0.8152	0.8252	0.80
Dutch florin	2.8817	2.9241	2.9037
Swiss franc	1.8738	1.9241	1.8913
Swedish krona	2.6974	2.8383	2.805
Norwegian krona	0.4721	0.4798	0.46
Denmark kroner	0.4856	0.49	0.4783
Finland mark	0.5443	0.5531	0.54
Canadian dollar	0.6967	0.7080	0.69
Australian dollar	2.2722	2.3089	2.28
S. African rand	2.4690	2.5089	2.4875
Belgian franc (10)	0.6849	0.6980	0.68
Austrian schilling (10)	1.0206	1.0371	1.02
Italian lira (1000)	2.0543	2.0882	2.08
Jordanian dinar	4.3400	4.5400	4.34
English pound	0.8900	0.9200	0.89
Irish punt	3.8577	4.0216	3.858
Spanish peseta (100)	5.0175	5.2520	5.017
	2.4849	2.44	2.57

\*These rates vary according to bank. \*\*Bank of Israel.  
 SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

הקדמה מן האל



Key Representative Rates table showing US dollar, Sterling, and Mark exchange rates.

NYSE STOCK MARKETS table showing various stock indices and their changes.

Other stock market indexes table listing international and regional indices.

Israeli stocks in NY table listing the performance of Israeli companies on the New York Stock Exchange.

ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS table showing interest rates for various financial instruments.

Dollar crossrates (US) table listing exchange rates for various currencies.

Libor rates table showing London Interbank Offered Rates for different terms.

Foreign financial data courtesy of CommStock Trading Ltd. table.

US commodities table listing prices for various goods like oil, sugar, and metals.

London commodities table listing prices for various goods like oil, sugar, and metals.

TEL AVIV STOCKS table with multiple columns for stock names, prices, and changes, categorized into Multi-sided trading, Two-sided trading, and AFTERNOON.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK advertisement with logo and slogan 'THE PEOPLE YOU CAN BANK ON'.

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES table listing stock prices for various international companies.

Market steady despite Teva, Africa Israel gains

STOCKS were little changed yesterday, helped by jumps in Africa Israel Investment and Teva. Analysts suggested that the Bank of Israel might be buying government bonds...

Rate worries push dollar down

LONDON (Reuters) - THE dollar slipped against the mark yesterday and leading European shares closed lower after a respected business climate survey dampened expectations that Germany would ease credit this week.

Dow falls on profit-taking, weak tobacco shares

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks fell yesterday as investors called time out after a three-session winning streak and tobacco shares plunged as a crucial cigarette liability trial neared an end.

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Blue-chip stocks fell yesterday as investors called time out after a three-session winning streak and tobacco shares plunged as a crucial cigarette liability trial neared an end.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

Currency cross-rates table showing exchange rates for various currencies like Mark, Sterling, Yen, SF, and FF.

WATER IS PRECIOUS! SAVE EVERY DROP! advertisement with decorative border.

lem Post... case... Both girls had... They now... are still hope...

riseries... ppe grapes... or way out... of hunger... strike crisis





# Non-Zionist youth groups to get funding

EVELYN GORDON

ZIONISM will continue to be one of the criteria for government funding of youth groups, but non-Zionist groups will nevertheless be funded, according to a compromise worked out by the Knesset Education Committee yesterday.

The committee met to discuss Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair's recommendation that advocacy of Zionism be dropped from the list of criteria which youth movements must meet to obtain government funding. Ben-Yair said this criterion was discriminatory and might not stand up in court, since it prevented many Arab youth groups from getting funding, and certain haredi groups as well.

The committee agreed unanimously that ways must be found to give these groups equal funding. However, those MKs present also unanimously opposed dropping the criterion of Zionism.

"Erasing [this criterion] would send the wrong message," said committee chairman Emanuel Zissman (Third Way). "Keeping Zionism in the list of criteria is a moral and national achievement."

The Education Ministry also

strongly opposed dropping Zionism from the list. Ministry Director-General Ben-Zion Dal said it would be especially ironic to remove Zionism from the list of criteria now, since the coming school year is the 100th anniversary of the founding of modern Zionism.

According to the compromise worked out by the committee, the criteria will remain unchanged. However, a new funding category will be created which will enable non-Zionist groups to receive money as well. The Education Ministry and the Attorney-General's Office are to come up with the wording for this new category within 48 hours.

Meanwhile, even those youth groups which were eligible for funding under the old criteria have so far not gotten any money, because, though the old criteria had expired, the ministry refused to approve Ben-Yair's proposed new criteria. As a result, there were no criteria at all, so no funds could be disbursed. Once the new wording is approved, these groups will finally be able to get their money.



Yossi Feldman (holding picture of the original house) and demonstrators talk yesterday with MK Rehavam Ze'evi at the Stern House on Jerusalem's Mamilla Street. (Isaac Harari)

# Herzl's old home to be moved

BILL HUTMAN

THE Stern House - a historic 19th century building just outside the Old City's Jaffa Gate where Theodore Herzl made his home when he visited Jerusalem - is being moved, and that has preservationists up in arms.

"Beit Stern is being destroyed, and what for? Because all they are concerned about is money," said Yossi Feldman, director of the Council for the Preservation of Historic Sites in Israel, at a protest yesterday outside the building in

the old Mamilla neighborhood. Developers, however, said the preservationists were crying wolf.

"All the historic buildings, including Stern House, in Mamilla are being taken apart so they can be moved and then rebuilt," said Haim Albalades, director of the Mamilla Development Project.

Albalades said the historic buildings would be rebuilt within the commercial area and promenade that is

now under construction in the upper section of Mamilla, and that the move was upheld several years ago by the High Court.

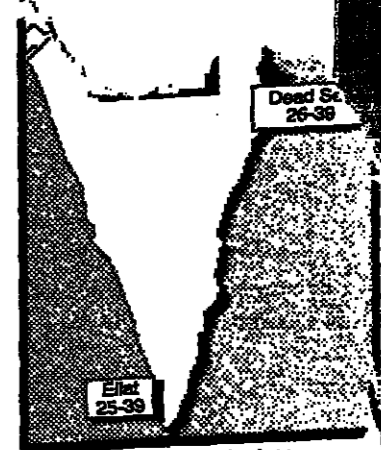
"I honestly don't know why they have come here to protest," Albalades said.

The small protest, which for the most part involved getting passersby to sign a petition against the alleged destruction, was organized by the council and the

Society for the Preservation of Nature.

The two-story building at No. 18 Mamilla Street was built by the Stern family at the end of the 19th century, with the ground floor used by the father as a store and upstairs as the family's residence.

The room is the home in which Herzl stayed in 1898 had been kept for years as a semi-shrine to the Zionist leader, but has been destroyed in the renovations now underway.



Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear.

### AROUND THE WORLD

	C	F	C	F
Amsterdam	15	59	81	rain
Berlin	16	61	84	clear
Buenos Aires	22	72	84	clear
Card	28	82	84	clear
Chicago	19	66	84	clear
Copenhagen	17	63	84	clear
Frankfurt	17	63	84	clear
Geneva	17	63	84	clear
Helsinki	15	59	84	clear
Hong Kong	27	81	84	clear
London	15	59	84	clear
Los Angeles	18	64	84	clear
Madrid	22	72	84	clear
Moscow	15	59	84	clear
New York	19	66	84	clear
Paris	17	63	84	clear
Rome	18	64	84	clear
Sao Paulo	22	72	84	clear
Sydney	22	72	84	clear
Tel Aviv	22	72	84	clear
Toronto	18	64	84	clear
Vienna	18	64	84	clear
Zurich	18	64	84	clear

### Winning cards

IN yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the ace of spades, the jack of hearts, the eight of diamonds, and the eight of clubs.

# Police deny political pressure to stop mafia deportations

BILL HUTMAN

A POLICE operation aimed at deporting dozens of mafia members from the Commonwealth of Independent States operating in Israel, that was slated for last spring, was called off for unknown reasons.

Former internal security minister Moshe Shahal (Labor) said yesterday. Shahal said he himself did not know why the operation was called off but that the public had the right to know.

He said that a decision to carry out the deportation was made by police, with the approval and cooperation of the interior and justice ministries, in January or February.

The former minister was commenting on media reports yesterday that revealed that the planned operation had been called off because of concerns in the Labor Party that it would hurt their election chances by angering immigrants from the CIS. Russian

immigrant leaders have charged that the police, by exaggerating their community's role in crime, have unfairly given the newcomers a bad name.

Shahal said he had given approval for the operation, and that he knew of no other political intervention to stop the operation.

The police spokesman, in a statement, strongly denied the media reports.

The reports "are not based on the facts," the spokesman said. "Over the past several months, several persons connected with international crime have been deported, when legal and operational considerations allowed it."

"There are also several persons awaiting deportation, and these cases are being taken care of. There has been absolutely no connection in the entire affair with political pressure," the spokesman said in a statement.

# Rabinovich bids farewell to Jewish leaders

MARILYN HENRY NEW YORK

AMID warm and humorous references to the rebelliousness of the Jewish community, Israeli Ambassador Itamar Rabinovich said good-bye to New York on Tuesday.

Malcolm Hoenlein, executive director of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations, commended Rabinovich for handling the "verbal and vegetable assaults that came with the territory," a reference to the often passionate and physical opposition that envoys of the Labor government faced in many of their New York appearances.

The reception for Rabinovich largely overlooked the serious strains between Israel and the organized Jewish community, which was often chided for what was seen as its laxity in embracing the peace process and for its failure to rein in groups that lobbied on Capitol Hill against the Labor government's policies.

Rabinovich served during a stunning period in US-Israeli relations - one that was free of severe tensions between Jerusalem and Washington, said Kenneth Bialkin, one of the former chairmen of the Presidents

Conference. Instead, "the problem was right here in the Jewish community; the problem of dealing with a fractious, concerned Jewish community," Bialkin said.

He commended Rabinovich for retaining his "equanimity." The ambassador called the American Jewish community "our most important asset," and said that "managing" this relationship is an important task for the government and the state of Israel.

Further, although the agenda of that relationship is "driven by the contemporary pressing [political] issues," he said, there needs to be a broader dialogue between Israel and American Jews.

In remarks largely devoid of politics, however, he also warned the American Jewish community that the next few months will be "trying," and there will be pressures on the community to take sides.

Diplomatic to the end, he did not elaborate.

# Officials prefer go-slow approach with Arrow

STEVE RODAN

ISRAELI officials yesterday urged that the Arrow 2 program continue as scheduled, despite the suggestion of the program's US director that, given another successful launch, the two countries can skip future tests and concentrate on deployment of the anti-missile defense system.

"We are trying to take a sober look at the situation, even though we are pleased with the success," a defense source said.

Defense sources appeared to pour cold water on the idea of fast-tracking the project, despite the aim of officials to complete the system by the end of the century. "We don't think that one or two launches would be enough to complete this stage of tests," one source said.

Hours after the Arrow 2 interception of a target missile on Tuesday, US project manager Joseph Butler had said that, if the next Arrow succeeds, then Israel and the US should drop the remaining two launches scheduled and focus all their efforts on developing a complete anti-mis-

sile defense system. The US has agreed to fund \$40 million for five years starting in 1997 for the completion of the Arrow system.

Meanwhile, the *Israel Air Force Journal* reports that two Arrow anti-missile defense batteries are being prepared for deployment within the next few years.

The magazine says the first battery will be deployed by 1999 but remain experimental, operated by the Air Force's anti-aircraft batteries only in times of emergency.

The second battery will be deployed in the middle of the next decade, the magazine reports. This battery will seek to complement the first station and will be used to protect northern Israel from a ballistic missile attack.

The magazine also reports that IAI subsidiary Elta's radar, Green Pine, will be integrated into the development of the Nautilus laser anti-rocket defense.

The introduction of the radar comes as preparations begin for the next round of tests of the laser system.

## Learning Hebrew?

**MORI 1 AND 2**  
L.L. Riklis  
These books are designed for beginners who wish to learn Hebrew without the aid of a teacher. The books contain 72 lessons and each lesson consists of numbered sentences. At the end of each lesson there are notes containing various explanations, both idiomatic and grammatical, of the Hebrew text as well as examples clarifying the explanations.  
JP Price: NIS 59.00

**HEBREW AT YOUR EASE**  
Eliezer Tichol  
Contains four 60-minute cassettes and a 272-page illustrated book. It starts with the alphabet and progresses step-by-step to increasingly more complex usage of Hebrew. The book includes a 700-word illustrated dictionary and corresponding lessons. Available in Hebrew-English, Hebrew-French, Hebrew-German, and Hebrew-Spanish.  
JP Price: NIS 159.00 / ea  
Also available in Hebrew - Arabic

**501 HEBREW VERBS**  
501 verbs fully conjugated in all tenses, in a new, easy-to-learn format, alphabetically arranged by root. Each verb illustrated by sample sentences, idiomatic expressions, root index, Hebrew-English and English-Hebrew verbs indexes.  
Written by Shmuel Bokority. Softcover, 910 pp.  
JP Price: NIS 85.00

**OH, HEBREW!**  
Hebrew conversation manual with two cassettes - will help you get by in everyday situations in Israel. Divided according to subjects, with transliterations adapted both to Hebrew and for reading in English. By Nisa Trumper, illustrated by Ze'ev.  
JP Price: NIS 56.00

To Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000, Tel. 02-6241282  
Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post.  
Credit card orders accepted by phone.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. No. \_\_\_\_\_

### NEWS IN BRIEF

**Environment officials, PA counterparts meet**  
Environment officials, led by Environment Ministry Director-General Nehama Ronen, met yesterday with Palestinian Authority representatives to set the agenda for future discussions on various issues.  
These included the planned Palestinian airport, the building of a flour mill in Gaza, and the handling of solid waste and sewage in Judea and Samaria.  
It was also agreed that an emergency line of communication would be established to deal with situations that required the urgent attention of one or both sides.  
*Jerusalem Post Staff*

**30 rescued in fire on Golan**  
More than 1,000 dunams of natural forest, including rare vegetation, went up in flames yesterday in the Yehudiya nature reserve on Golan Heights. Some 30 hikers who were in the reserve had to be rescued. Fire-engines and spray planes joined in to combat the blaze, the cause of which is not yet clear.  
*Itm*

**13-year-old from Tel Sheva during a clan feud in the town.**  
According to the indictment, on July 24 a brawl broke out between Ali Saliman and Yasser Eltouri over a long-standing dispute.  
The women of the Eltouri family broke up the fight, and Ali said he would come back later and kill everyone, the charges said.  
That night Ali and his father came back in a jeep to the Eltouri home.  
They got out of the vehicle and shot at a group of women and children standing outside. As a result, the boy, Fares Julian, who was visiting the neighborhood, was killed. Eltouri's wife and baby were also injured.  
*Itm*

**Two Lod men indicted for boy's murder**  
A Lod man, Salah Saliman, 43, and his son, Ali, 20, were charged by the Tel Aviv District Court yesterday with the murder of a

## Hazorfim

*A Timeless Art Of Silver*

Tel-Aviv, 75 Kibbutz, Galuyot St., Tel. 05-6818125 Tel-Aviv, 1 Allenby St., Opera Tower, Tel. 05-5101666 Bnei-Brak, 86 Rabbi Akiva St., Tel. 05-5705498  
Petah-Tikva, 4 Shipigel St., Tel. 05-9546752 Jerusalem, 5 Karfai Nesbarim St., Sbatner Center, Gurat Shaul, Tel. 02-6514026  
Jerusalem, 5 Ya'akov Meir St., Gush, Tel. 02-5858553 Netanya, 15 Remez St., Tel. 09-616152  
Hazorfim Belgium - Schupstraat 20, 2018 Antwerpen, Tel. 2271666

## Israel's own agony aunt has the answers

Dear Ruthie,  
I miss reading Dear Abby. What should I do?  
Dear Ruthie,  
What should I do? I have a serious problem that I feel only Marge Proops could handle. Any advice?  
Dear Ruthie,  
How can I explain to my relatives abroad what life is REALLY like here?  
Answer: Buy "Dear Ruthie!"

JP Price NIS 35, inc. VAT and p & h in Israel. For airmail, please add NIS 8 per book

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000  
Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of Dear Ruthie, at NIS 35 per copy.  
Enclosed is my check, payable to The Jerusalem Post.  
Credit card orders accepted by Tel./Fax/e-mail.

ORDER BY CHECK OR FAX  
02-241282  
02-241212  
e-mail: orders@jpost.co.il

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_  
Code \_\_\_\_\_ Tel. (day) \_\_\_\_\_ Signature \_\_\_\_\_

كافا من الاصل